HISTORY OF AMERICAN EMBLEMS

DR. B. J. CIGRAND

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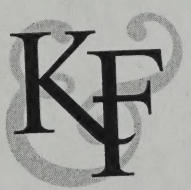

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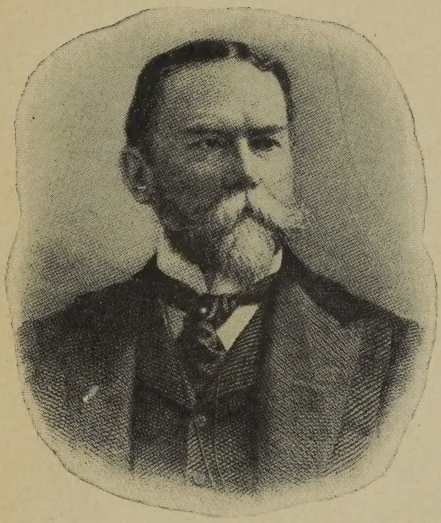
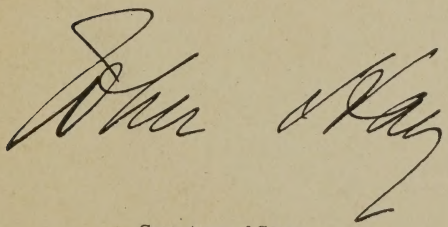
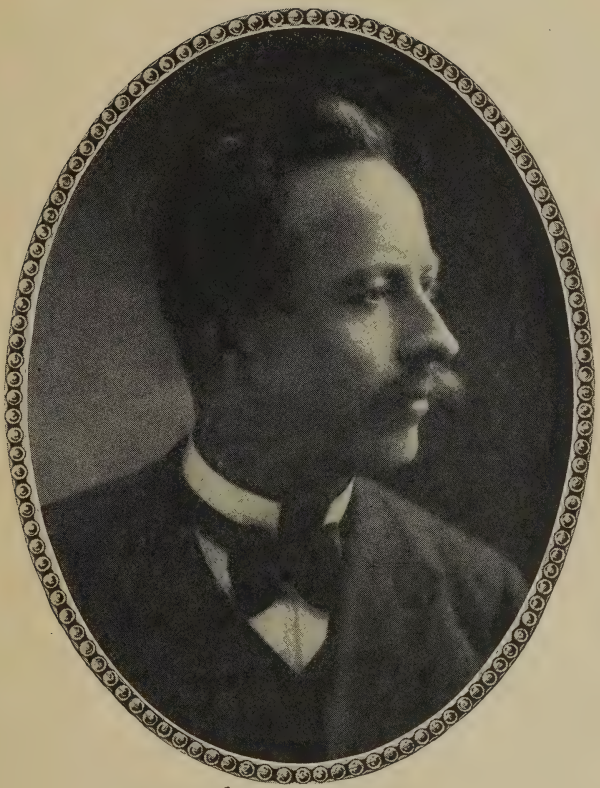




Secretary of State.

(Letter granting permission, page 519.)



B. J. Cigrand.

The New Great Seal (June 15th, 1904,) in its heraldic tinctures, as published by the Department of State and sanctioned for "History of American Emblems" by the Department of War.

STORY OF

THE GREAT SEAL

OF THE

UNITED STATES

OR

History of American Emblems

By B. J. CIGRAND, B. S., M. S., D. D. S.

Member Directory Chicago Public Library; National President American Flag-Day Association; Dean Dental Department University of Illinois; Contributor to Encyclopœdia Americana; Author of "Life of Alexander Hamilton," and "The Real Robert Morris."

Part I, Evolution of Great Seal
Part II, Meaning of Great Seal

"In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed."—GEORGE WASHINGTON.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ILLUSTRATIONS: G. H. BENEDICT & CO.

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TO THE

HEROES AND PATRIOTS

WHO SO BRAVELY FOUGHT

FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE THIRTEEN COLONIES;

AND THUS GAVE BIRTH

TO THIS GRAND NATION

WHOSE GREAT SEAL IS

HERE DESCRIBED,

THIS VOLUME IS DEDICATED BY THE AUTHOR.

"Go, little book, God send thee good passage,
And especially let this be thy prayer
Unto them all that thee will read or hear,
Where thou art wrong, after their help to call
Thee to correct in any part or all."

—CHAUCER.

PREFACE.

The day was one of intense heat, such as early July can bestow on the geography of Philadelphia. The air was sultry and the azure sky canopied a parched and dusty earth. The heavens had not possessed a cloudy decoration for upwards of a week and the sun dispatched his fleetest and hottest rays. There was a stillness which seemed to say, "Winds and waves don't break the silence," so we can hear the voices of the patriots in Independence Hall.

Yes, the heat of that fourth day of the seventh month has become proverbial and as the thermometer registers the warmth of the burning sun, so the Continental Congress reflected the true condition of the patriot mind.

The citizens outside the convention walls found solace beneath the shadowed piazzas of the "Old Coffee House" opposite the assembly hall, while the cloistered delegates sought comfort in the cool and deliberate judgment of Franklin, who modified the tone of an excited delegation. The fever of those hours was not to be quenched by rain or changed by a threatening storm; it found relief only in the realization of freedom. Its germinal origin lies dormant, abounding in vigorous existence at the approach of oppression.

Old Mother Earth never witnessed a clash of arms which sent such clanks and sparks from cold and bur-

nished steel as had preceded the Magna Charta of the enraged colonists, and no nation possesses so thrilling and fascinating a story as has its theme laid at the doorstep of Independence Hall. The historic events coincidentally born on that July 4th in the form of an adopted Declaration of Independence and the creation of a committee on National Emblems, is as interesting as it is remarkable.

On the afternoon of this American day John Hancock, president of the Continental Congress, arose from his plain chair and in a tone of voice indicative of force and authority, said: "We are now a nation, and I am ready to hear you vote on the question, 'Resolved, That Dr. Franklin, Mr. Thomas Jefferson and Mr. John Adams be a committee to prepare a device for a seal of the United States of North America.'"

The united voices of the admiring co-delegates left no purpose in a call for the nays, and the "laurel leaves of consideration" were again affixed to the heads of the great trio which had designed a Declaration for a struggling and suffering populace.

The committee on Seal immediately proceeded to perform its duty and after six weeks of deliberation, during which time numerous designs were considered, it made its report. The Continental Congress was hard to please; after discussing the elaborate report of the committee on Seal, it was voted that its recommendations be laid on the table and the committee discharged. A new committee was created and its efforts met a similar sad fate. The five subsequent committees fared no happier

and the scores of designs accompanied by descriptions had been submitted to congress all meeting with disapproval.

Finally the entire matter was placed in the hands of the genial Charles Thomson, secretary of the Continental Congress, and he, with the aid of William Barton, reported a draft which was adopted on June 20, 1782.

The story of the evolution of our "National Emblems" is one impregnated with historical treasures. The numerous designs as advocated, together with the discussions and criticisms by the delegates, contain the latent history of all that pertains to our form of government; they express sentiments and portray underlying precepts which cannot be found in any other transaction of our national origin.

It is indeed strange that this subject has not been made public, since it elucidates innumerable points in our career as a government, and clearly illustrates that many of the opinions entertained by historians are conjectural —instance of which we cite, the significance of the tricolors, red, white and blue, which have been as variously interpreted as there are historical writers. While in the "Story of the Great Seal" we are definitely informed that they signify the following:

Red signifies "Hardiness and Valor."

White—"Purity and Innocence."

Blue—"Vigilance, Perseverance and Justice."

The entire story is replete with similar data and contains sketches, designs and devices which add considerably to the value as a glossary of American emblems, to-

kens and symbols. The illustrations in this work are correct reproductions furnished me by the department of State, and in some few instances the drafts are produced from the lengthy descriptions by the committeemen. The original sketches are at present in a rather faded condition and great care was exacted to have the engravings accurate. Some of these crude outlines for a seal were no larger than a silver dollar, while others cover space half the size of a daily newspaper.

The task of gathering, editing and supplementing historical elaborations, has required upwards of twelve years of work, since it involved a careful study of the biographies, diaries and writings of nearly fifty early American patriots.

The "Story of the Great Seal" has rescued from the ravaging influence of both time and the elements much of the colonial, continental and national history of our country; besides this sketch of our "nation's mark," has induced the authorities at Washington to assist in preserving with zealous care the entire original material.

If these volumes instill in the minds of the readers a truer patriotism and inculcate in their hearts a deeper reverence for the great and noble people who founded this popular government—the purpose of the publication will have been fully realized.

This proem would certainly be incomplete if it failed to express grateful consideration to those who so generously encouraged the work or lent assistance or advice in its preparation.

In compliance with the wishes of many eminent people

who have read extracts, proofs and manuscripts of the "Story of the Great Seal," the appendix will contain a brief history of the growth of this narrative of "Our Nation's Signature."

B. J. Cigrand.

Chicago, Feb. 9, 1903.

STORY OF THE GREAT SEAL.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

"This England never did nor never shall
Lie at the proud foot of a conqueror."

—SHAKESPEARE.

THE story goes that once upon a time a man took a lion out to walk. "He showed him many fine sights and scenes, and the lion seemed profoundly impressed. Finally they came to a large placard upon which was pictured a man (Uncle Sam) subduing a lion (England). The man was depicted as standing over the lion with eyes aglow, hair blown back by the wind, muscles tense, and supremacy marked in every feature. The lion was portrayed as cowering and trembling at his conqueror's feet, as if whining for mercy.

"There, my friend," said the man, pointing proudly at the picture, "what do you think of that?" "Think,"

answered the lion, quizzically viewing his companion a moment, "I think simply it was painted by a man."

Believing that among my kind readers there may chance to be secluded a lukewarm Englishman, I trust should he stay to read my story's end, if he were asked what he thought of the tale, he would say, but with hesitance, "I simply think it was told by an American."

Well! come, patriots, gather round the table, get comfortably situated, lend me your ears, and I will tell you a tale that your grandfathers failed to hear—one of truth and love.

There is nothing more worthy of a patriot's study than the history of his native land. A correct knowledge of its past records will reveal to him why he is, or should be, a patriot. Especially is this true of the loyal American, whose nation's history is the pride of all liberty loving humanity; there never was a nation more nobly born than this our Union; the story of its morning-time is beyond compare in all that moves the higher emotions to admiration and reverence.

One of the most gratifying evidences of the love the American people have for their land is the ever increasing interest manifested in historical studies and research. The people are gradually comprehending that the proper way to learn lessons of wisdom for the uncertain future is to give immediate attention to events of the past.

All down the "long avenues of time" the voices of the departed are calling, giving us words of warning to avoid the errors which wrecked mighty empires, kingdoms and republics of their time. But how can we prevent a similar sad fate for our grand American government, and sail free from threatning perils, if we heed not the advice of our fathers and remain ignorant of our nation's past?

Historical knowledge that will cultivate in the minds of its readers a feeling of national patriotism, is and ever must be the safeguard of a republic like ours.

The general as well as the minute history of our beloved country abounds with interesting notes, and the American student need not burden his mind with legends and myths of mediæval history. No! For him the story is told in modern language filled with truths, facts and realities. The closer he investigates the narrative, the more it invites his love and inspires in him a sense of patriotism, since its pages bear the names and deeds which command the respect of all mankind. He who has read a brief history of our land lives in the twilight, and knows not of the latent sunbeams of which it is composed.

Now, knowing full well that many of my dear readers are living in this dawn of light, and are anxious to examine its component parts, I take the greatest of pleasure in showing and telling them of one of its many bright beams—"The Great Seal of our Nation."

Such a research will afford us unbounded pleasure since it will disclose to us a memorable panorama of the past; the scene will be an enjoyable one, free from mere dry statement of facts but on the contrary the incidents and proceedings will capture our devoted attention while our mind's eye will observe interesting pictures of the gone-before-Patriots whose magic wand beckoned this beam to our sunny shore. Many of you, no doubt, have seen this beam, but in order that you may more fully appreciate its piercing ray, let us study its position and then determine what place it takes among others of our bright national colors.

The fathers of our government were patient, but they were steadfast, they were calm, and as heroic as they were enlightened. They had been in training for Liberty for a long time. The American wilderness has proved a rare school for those virtues that make self-reliant men and women. The wrestle with perils, trials and tribulations had never ceased from the hour when the first comers set foot on these untrimmed western shores, until the guns flashed a fateful Lexington, and ushered them into the dawn of national independence. A hardy race had grown to power in these western wilds—a race, "who knew their rights, and knowing dared maintain."

The world had never seen three million people better fitted to take care of themselves, or more disposed to do so, than those sturdy colonists, who flamed into anger, at the first inference and suggestion that they were not *Freemen*, and who were prepared to mow kings, lords and priests from their way, on the first sign that meant to enyoke their necks. They defied tryanny, and with guns in their steady hands, and with a will that nothing could flex they marched undisciplined, but with unison, against a trained and royal army.

The immediate cause that accidented the clash between the colonies and the kingdom—Mother England —was a newly crowned king, a crowned insignificance who unfortunately imagined himself greater than the people who had vested him with regality. This was George the Third, a narrow minded, trifling and obstinate person, who had the vanity of a monarch and the peculiar characteristics of an imbecile. He came to the throne in 1760, and like kings in general, proud but poor, he wanted money with which to display kingly attributes.

The French and Indian war had gained for England glory and territory, but involved her in unpleasantness and debt, and the young king proposed that in-as-much as the war was waged in the defence of the colonies, *they* should be the ones to pay the heavy debt and restore England to her financial dignity. The colonies on the other hand believed that the mother country had

been fully compensated by the acquisition of Canada and Florida, and since the colonies had themselves plunged into an unavoidable debt of sixteen million dollars they believed it unfair to be made to bear the entire cost. But the stubborn king with his yielding parliament did not see the matter in this light, and prepared to tax the colonies without asking their leave. This at once roused the American patriots to a sense of justice and they insisted that taxation without fair representation was an infringement on the rights of freemen.

But, all arguments were in vain. The mother country saw a glorious opportunity, and the intended benefits direct, should fall to her empty purse; in consequence an obnoxious law known as the Stamp Act passed parliament by a vote of five to one. It provided that all legal documents, almanacs, pamphlets, newspapers and advertisements should be printed on paper bearing an English stamp. The stamps were of fifty-four different kinds, and varied in cost from six cents to thirty dollars. The entire American people flashed into fierce resistance, and the king's officers dared not enforce the act.

Sons and Daughters of Liberty were the names of organizations which had their origin in these patriotic days. The Daughters pledged themselves to buy no goods imported from England; and they formed themselves into spinning societies and wove all the cloth used in the families. The Sons made it their special

business to frighten away stamp officers and create societies in the interests of American liberty.

Accordingly we find the history of the next twelve years (1763—1775) a story of unwise attempts on the part of England to increase her revenues at the expence of the Americans; and on the part of the colonies of

ENG. 2.

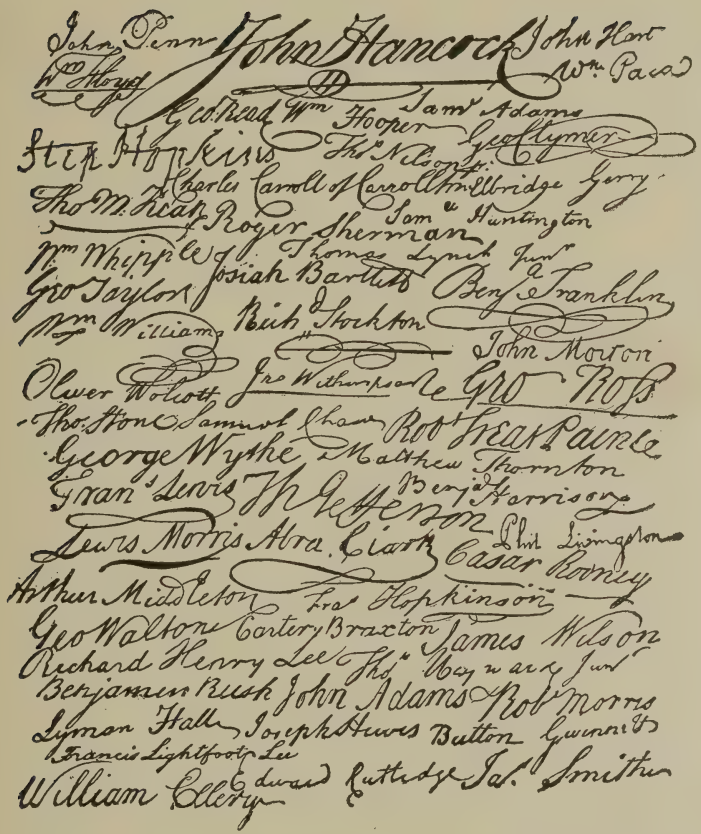
BEGINNING OF THE WAR—LEXINGTON.

spirited and united resistance to these acts. The clouds on the horizon rapidly spread till they darkened the whole heavens; powerful voices rang through the land with threatening and rebellious words; Adams, Otis and Henry, thundered with indignation, and all the people

cried "Amen," when in 1775 the storm burst forth in what is known as the American Revolution.

Lexington the preface of this most heroic drama, lent unfathonable patriotism to the already burning hearts. Bunker Hill with its smoking crest, where two hours of fierce valor and repeated victory announced to an astounded world that the Americans would *never* suffer themselves to be chained to a King's throne nor surrender the right to rule themselves by laws of their own making. Wonderful those passionate days where simple manhood rose to celestial heights of sacrifice and daring where the rights of common men were counted sacred as the rights of God, and the suffering of the few brought the salvation of the thronging generations yet to be. Thus the French and Indian war which had but shortly closed was a training-school for the generals and soldiers of the colonies; it showed them war, as conducted by the best captains of Europe; Washington, Putnam, Gates, Montgomery, Stark, Arnold, Morgan and others here learned the science and art of war. This war also taught the colonies the idea of consolidation, and that in union there is strength; that their liberties would be assured if they clasped hands and battled for their rights.

So we find that it was not in the time of peace, but in the depth of a bloody struggle, when cannons roared and sabers flashed, that a fearless congress of patriotic men gave birth to an instrument, the like of which the whole civilized world has yet to see.



ENG. 3.

SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION.

The "Declaration of Independence" sounded a glorious voice, such a clarion-cry of the free as had never rung through the corridors of time. It was everywhere received with the highest approbation and cor-

diality. In spite of the British hostilities and severe suffering of the patriots the "declaration was received more like a song of triumph than a call to battle." This grand instrument said, as no human speech, had ever proclaimed, that man was next to God in spiritual worth, that the personal soul was the only reality of high concern on all this planet, that kings and priests are *slight* things when standing between man and his rights and that government is the people's convenience, not their master.

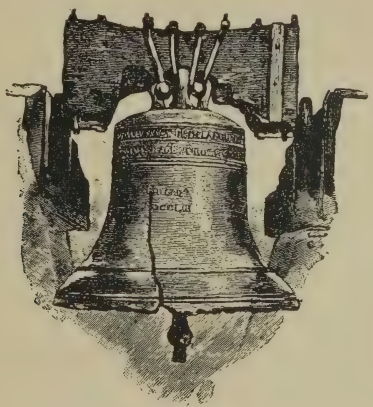
Such a sermon was never read to the proud and titled of the earth, as the fathers published to humanity in the great document which gave to us Americans our exultant and explosive Fourth of July.

Who of us to-day knows of a grander paper than the Declaration of Independence? Who of us dare to speak other than good of the great and grand men who laid the foundation stones of our glorious liberty in the brief document, and thus gave to us the freedom we now enjoy?

But words alone could not achieve our liberties; struggle and anguish; toil and blood; and the reign of tears were the price; and year rolled red on suffering year, with ever-growing anguish of the patriotic sons of liberty.

We hope that man is not among us, who, being protected by our laws, and sheltered by the dear old flag, beneath whose folds the patriots of the Revolution

marched on to victory over the armies of tyrant and oppressor does not feel his heart beat quicker with pride and affection as he glances back to the heroes who planted on the Fourth of July, 1776, the germ of our National Independence.



ENG. 4.

LIBERTY BELL.

It was on this memorable Fourth, when the Declaration had just been adopted, and the bell over Liberty Hall had rung out to the world the key-note of a song which shall never die, that a spirit of national aspiration was enkindled in American hearts. For then the Honorable John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, arose from his chair and with the dignity of a conqueror, said: "I appoint Dr. Benjamin Franklin, Mr. John Adams and Mr. Thomas Jefferson a committee to prepare a device for a Great Seal of the United States of America."

Thus to the hands of these three noble Americans was committed a most honorable and important work. The ability of these gentlemen was undoubted and thoroughly tested, since these compatriots were among the prominent members of the committee which drafted the Magna Charta of America.

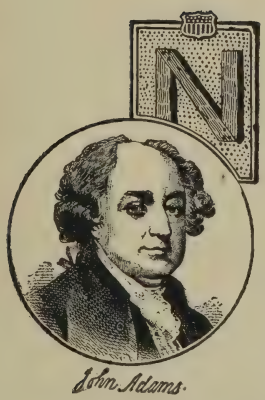
Such, kind readers, is our first night's retrospect; landing us on the eastern coast of America, with our present time or age telescoped something over one hundred years.

CHAPTER II.

ANCIENT AND MODERN SEALS.

"Like a ring without a finger;
Like a bell without a ringer;
Like a fort with none to win it:
Like the moon with no man in it;
Is a paper without a seal."

—BEAUMONT.



NOW, while "The learned Philadelphian," "The plump Bostonian," and the "Fairhaired Virginian" are devising seals, let us review our knowledge of Seals and give a passing glance at the elements of heraldry, and thus be better prepared to hear and understand the report of this intelligent committee.

The subject of seals in general offers a very tempting field of research and speculation, involving develop-

ments in chronology, history, jurisprudence, social changes, and epochs of civilization. We can refer now to national seals only.

The word seal is derived from the Latin *sigillum* meaning a mark or token; and a fair definition of the word would be to say that, "It is an impression made on paper, wax, clay, or other soft material by means of a die of metal, stone or wood, and attached to letters and other documents in token of authenticity." The word seal also refers to the stamp or instrument which yielded the mark or impression, but more correctly speaking the impression is called the "seal proper," and the device from which it was stamped or drawn is known as the "Matrix," or seal press. The Matrix is usually a specie of die, of stone, metal, wood or other hard substance, having a design or motto cut in intaglio on its face for the purpose of stamping a device or motto in relief on clay, wax, or other soft material while in a plastic condition and thus serves to establish authenticity.

The word has been variously spelled in the English of the past, namely; *seale, seali, seel,* and *sele;* the several other languages spell it as follows:—Old French, *seel* French, *sceau*; Old Latin, *signum*; Anglo Saxon, *sigle* Spanish, *sello*; Italian, *sigillo*; German, *siegel*; Gothic *siglio*; Dutch, *zegel*; and Danish, *segl.*

The use of seals to give authority as well as authenticity to documents and thus to establish their genuine-

ness, comes down to us from a remote antiquity. Perhaps the earliest reference to seals we find in the Bible, and in its pages frequent allusions to them are made.

If you doubt this, go to Abbott's collection of Egyptian antiquities in the possession of the New York Historical Society, and there you may look upon a seal or signet-ring which according to the catalogue, was used six hundred years before the great Pharaoh "took off his ring from his hand and put it upon Joseph's hand, and arraying him in vestures of fine linen, put a gold chain about his neck, and made him ride in the second chariot" 1730 B. C. In other words, Pharaoh gave to the Hebrew slave his seal-ring in token of the delegation of royal authority to him as viceroy of the "land of Ham."

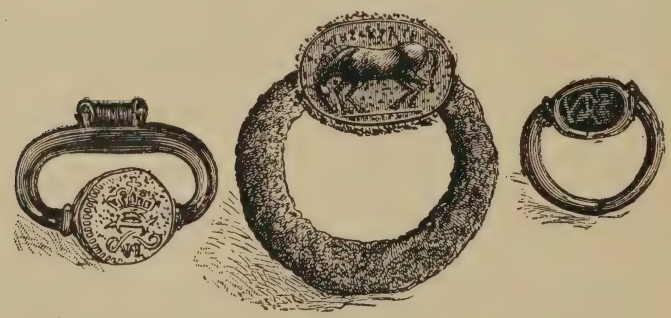
This would go to prove that the art of engraving signets or seals has been in existence more than 4000 years.

The primary object for which seals were devised was, without a doubt, to furnish a mark of attestation to important documents, in cases where the contracting parties were unable to subscribe their names; and the practice of sealing was subsequently continued when the original purpose for which it was instituted had ceased. In ancient Egypt it was customary for the heads of families to possess a private seal which was usually worn on the right hand of the father, and so the seal came to be known as the signet-ring or signing ring. It was through this

odd yet sensible manner of wearing the seal that our present habit of finger-rings was evolved.

Thus in early days the finger-ring was not purely ornamental, but served a valuable purpose to its possessor.

These signet-rings were for the most part made of gold and silver, especially those worn by Pharaohs, priests and other high dignitaries; those worn by the lower classes were usually ivory or blue porcelain. The favorite signets of the rich were plain circlets of gold bearing scarabeaus, or a stone engraved with the wearer's likeness and a sacred emblem or legend.



ENG. 6.

ANCIENT GOLD SIGNET-RINGS.

The Egyptians, however, were not the only people that used the ring to seal with, since the Persians, Hin-

doos and all eastern countries attach great significance to a ring or signet

The most ancient signet ring in existence is that formerly worn by Cheops (2500 B. C.) the builder of the great pyramid, found in his tomb in the vicinity of the great monument. It is of finest gold and contains his sacred hiroglyphics.

Sundry passages of Holy Writ prove the antiquity of the rings as signets, for example:—"Write ye also for the Jews. as it liketh you in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring; for the writing which is written in the king's name and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse."

Rings among the God-favored people when used as seals were called "*Taboath*," the name of a root, signifying to imprint and also to seal.

All the Ancient people wore the signet-ring on one or the other hand, but the Arabians fastened the signet-ring to their neck by means of a long ribbon, thus allowing the seal to dangle on the chest.

The Romans introduced from Egypt the custom of engraving animals on their sign-rings; afterward the portraits of some great hero; and later indelicate symbols were frequently displayed. Signet-rings in those days were oft of immense value; that of Faustina, Empress of Rome, (138 A. D.) cost $200,000; that of Domitia, Empress of Rome, (96 A. D.) cost $300,000.

The custom of signet-rings still prevails in the Roman church; at the consecration of a Bishop the signet-ring is blessed and put upon the fourth finger of the right hand, as a sign or seal of his allegiance with the church.

ENG. 7.
ANCIENT SEALS; MUMMIFIED HAND.

The wedding ring is supposed to be of Roman origin and to have sprung from the ancient custom of using signet-rings in making agreements, grants and contracts. It was usually given at the betrothal as a pledge of engagement, and its primitive form was undoubtly that of a signet-ring.

But these ancient customs have slowly but surely changed while the under-current of the significants has remained with us to this present day.

As time rolled on and people became more enlightened, and able to write their own name, the rings became ornamental objects and fastened to the fingers of both the ladies and gentlemen; thus gradually signet-rings came into disuse by the general folks, while the Pharaohs Kings, Emporers, and rulers in general, devised the "matrix" "or modern *Seal Press*."

Among the Romans seals were commonly in use; by an edict of Nero (50 A. D.) it was ordered "that every testator should affix his seal to his will, and that it should further be attested by the seals of seven witnesses."

One event in the Roman history fully illustrates how plentifully signet-rings were as early as 200 B. C. It was about the time that the Carthaginians under Hannibal made war upon the Romans under Fabius. The Romans had suffered many severe losses and the culminating point of victory for the Carthaginans was reached at the battle of Cannae, where upwards of 50,000 Romans fell; after Hannibal's victory his men gathered from the bodies of the slain Romans bushels and bushels of gold, plain and gem set signet-rings and sent them home to Carthage.

No particular device seems to have been adopted by the Roman Emperors upon their *sigilla*; thus we find that of Julius Caesar bearing a representation of Venus; that of Augustus Caesar a Sphinx, and that of some others the head of Alexander the Great.

The seals of the Romans were engraved with portraits of their ancestors or friends, with symbolical allusions to the real histories of the families.

In order to make illicit use or imitation of a seal difficult, the Roman Emperors had the seal itself locked in a vault and guarded day and night by special guard; and this cautious practice has since in a great degree spr ead to all the Governments of the earth.

A very curious precaution that was adopted centuries ago is still in use with the corporate seal of the monastery at Mount Athos, of the Ancient Roman Empire. The matrix or die was divided into four quarters, each of which was kept by one of the four *epistatai* or ruling monks; the four pieces are joined by a keyhandle which remains in the custody of the secretary.

Thus it was only when all the five guardians meet together, that the complete seal could be stamped on any documents.

The device on this historic curiosity was a figure of Madonna and child, and the imprint was made by blackening the matrix in the flame of a lamp and then pressed on the paper itself; thus these Ancient monks not only had a peculiar matrix, but a singular way of sealing with it; prior to this simple invention of lamp black, the people smeared the documents in the lower left hand corner with a sticky clay, or even later with plain bee's wax and then impressed the matrix.

Seals are of various forms, but the circular is common to all periods; the oval form was particularly frequent in France during the reign of the Merovingian and Carlovingian kings (A. D. 450); and we find that among these early monarchs of France, the earliest and completest series of royal seals. Royal and private seals up to the time of Louis VI. (1108) of France, were *en-placard* or directly impressed in the document, but he in-

troduced the *pendant* seals, or those suspended by cord or ribbon to the parchment.

When Louis came to the French throne (1137) he improved the methods of his successor, namely; he added a counter seal *i. e.*, he suplimented the reverse side, thus making his seal with an obverse side bearing his likeness, and a reverse side showing the emblems and symbols of France. The other monarchs of Europe soon copied after the ideal seal of the French Monarch and but few improvements were made on his original idea.

Pendant seals were of various sizes, and in general, the smaller and thicker the seal, the older it proves to be. Those of the early French kings are hardly one inch wide while that of Francis I., of France, had a breadth of more than four inches.

ENG. 8.

SEAL-*en-placard*.

The material used for sealing has differed in all ages. The ancient Egyptians used clay; the Romans, Venice-turpentine; the popes, lead; the kings wax, bronze, silver and rarely gold. When about the Ninth or Tenth century wax was made of various colors, only emperors and kings might seal in *red*; persons of high eminence used *green*; the Patriarchs of Jerusalem sealed in *black*; private corporations used *yellow*; and Charles V., of Germany,

sealed in *blue*, a very rare color, and he is said to be the only monarch who ever used it.

All the metal seals are of necessity *not enplacard* but *pendant*, and are held to the parchment by a cord passed through a hole in the seal. These metal pendant seals are called *Bullae*, and they were most commonly in lead, and thus came the destinctive appelation of a class of instruments sealed in that way; such for example are the edicts of the Roman Pontiffs which are commonly called Bulls. These leaden and golden seals, or *Bulls*, have stamped on the *obverse* the effigies, of Saints Peter and Paul, and on the *reverse* the name of the reigning pope; the date on these *Bulls* is taken from the Roman calendar instead of the modern. Perhaps the most celebrated bull ever issued, is the one known as Exsurge Domine, directed by Leo X. against Luther, who burned it at Wittenburg.

ENG. 9.

SEAL-*pendant.* SEAL-*bull.*

The devices upon seals throw not a little light upon the manners, customs and usages of different ages, and most of them have positive historic value.

They are, of all records, those upon which reliance can be placed; for being contemporary witnesses, no doubt can exist of the genuine worth of the record.

It is much to be regretted that so few matrices, or their impressions remain to us; several circumstances have tended to their destruction; in the first place matrices were frequently effaced and destroyed immediately upon the death of the possessor, to prevent any fraudulent use being made of them; and again their being some fashioned in gold and silver, or engraved on precious stones such were stolen for their intrinsic value.

Perhaps the most complete modern collection of both matrices and seals is in the British Museum which contains upwards of 25,000 specimens.

The significance of the seal in law at present is, that it imports a deliberate and considerate act on the part of the person affixing it; the rule has established itself firmly in the law that an instrument thus executed with a seal implies a consideration, or in other words, that full assent which is essential to the validity of every contract, and which can be inferred only from a seal.

The production of seals at the present day has become not only an art but a science, and it is agreeable to find that these seals have more definite meaning since armorial devices and emblems of direct relationship to

the person sealing are found upon them. The earliest authentic instance of a seal bearing armorial devices is that of Arnulphus, Count of Flanders, (941). Such seals were not common until the Thirteenth century.

Thus in modern times the seals of nations bear the arms and emblems of the country they represent, and knowing full well that our conscientious American committee will devise a seal after the modern pattern, let us closely scan the characteristics of armorial seals.

CHAPTER III.

ARMORIAL, OR MODERN SEALS.

"When rival nations, great in arms,
Great in power, in glory great,
Fill the world with war's alarms
And breathe a temporary hate,
The hostile storms but rage awhile,
And the tired contest ends;
But ah! how hard to reconcile
The foes who once were friends."

—WHITEHEAD.

SEALS, we have thus far found, are of early origin, and on closer investigation learn that the peculiar designs which appear upon them are no less ancient. These particular devices and symbols have in all ages been assumed as marks representing both national and personal events and achievements. These marks of distinction served to identify the person or nation at sight, and were especially valuable

during the time of war. The soldiers or knights, of these medieval times wore an apparatus, or suit made of metal, known as an armor, which completely covered the head, face, limbs and body, and thus hid from view the individual, and, also, protected him from the arrow-points of the enemy. Leather, brass, iron, silver, and even gold were used, in the fabrication of these intricate protectors.

ENG. 12.

COAT-OF-ARMS; ROMAN SOLDIER; AND METAL HELMETS.

From the fact that the warrior was thus concealed it became necessary to devise some plan by which the

knights could be recognized at sight, by means of some external bearing or mark. From this circumstance sprang the idea of placing a family ensign about the person, generally embroidered upon the coat or garment, which generally covered the metal armor; and so the ensign came to be called the Coat of Arms.

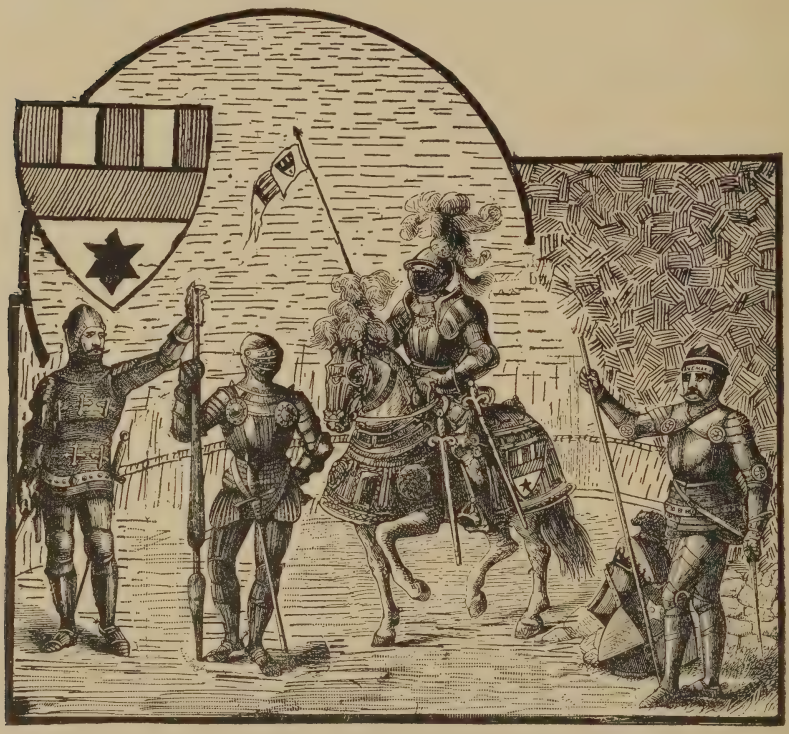
These frocks or coats of cloth were worn over the armor to protect the soldier from the piercing rays of the sun, which acted severely on the metal in warm climates; and in winter aided in keeping the individual warm. The same family ensigns were engraved or painted upon the Shield-of-arms. And on their armorial banner they again displayed the same ensigns floating in the wind above their heads from the shafts of their lances, and known as the Banner-of-Arms.

The mounted knight had an additional place for display, namely, on the blanket which covered his dashing charger, when it was called the Blanket-of-Arms.

The reason why the family ensign was thus frequently displayed is self-evident after a moments reflection; should the knight, in a hand to hand combat, chance to loose his shield-of-arms, his banner-of-arms would still be left to distinguish him, and in like instance should his banner-of-arms be torn from the lance shaft, the blanket-of-arms on the horse or the shield-of-arms would serve to identify the warrior.

The coat-of-arms thus became a mark of honor, denoting by different figures and colors variously arranged

and displayed, the descent, alliance or service of the bearer. Armorial bearings were gradually elaborated, and it was probably systematized by the Germans in the Tenth century, but to the French is due the credit of



ENG. 13.

ARMOUR OF THE 12TH, 13TH, 14TH AND 15TH CENTURIES.

perfecting it and reducing it to a strict system of technical nomenclature. Other nations soon accepted, with slight modifications, the French system of armory, or as it is now known, the Science of Heraldry.

Heraldry, we are told, is the science which teaches how to describe, or express by colors, figures or technical terms, the devices upon coats-of-arms, shields-of-arms, banners-of-arms, badges and other armorial insignia; it also tells of their history and treats of the rules which govern their employment.

For convenience of description Heraldry divides all the armorial devices into three classes, namely: those of government, those of municipal corporations, and those of individuals. The first-class includes seals of Empires, Kingdoms, Republics and States; the second embraces seals of communities, ecclesiastical, lay and educational; and the third comprises seals of persons and families, borne by individuals generally by right of grant or heritage. All classes of arms follow the same general heraldic laws, and are displayed on a shield or escutcheon.

Now, since all these three classes of arms or seals contain a shield, let us thoroughly study the elements which are usually found upon them.

The Shield as the most obvious piece of the defensive armour, was that upon which arms, symbols and emblems were first displayed. Since time immemorial the shield has been used by man while in battle, as a guard or protector, but it was not until the Thirteenth century that any marks of distinction were displayed, since prior to that time the warrior was not hidden fa-

cialy, and thus needed no external marks of identification. The shield was some times called the buckler, and also the target. The shield of the ancients from the earliest times was a frame work of twisted leather, or light wood, over which one or more thicknessess of ox hide and sometimes ornamental or defensive metal work was fastened, and those described by Homer covered the body from the face to the knee. Shields are carried on the left arm, and have handles and loops on the interior in order to insure firmness of hold.

The shield called by the Romans *Clipeus* was large and round, having sometimes a projection in the center of the exterior called *umbs*, which frequently terminated in a sharp spike.—Eng. 12.

In time of peace the Greeks hung their shields in the temple, removing the handles and loops thus rendering them useless in case of a popular outbreak.

There is no prescribed form for the shield, which has differed in different ages and nations, but the favorite shape is the Norman shield, which we will use for present study.

The Norman shield was of wood, covered with leather and clamped and stiffened in a fashion which is thought to have given rise to the first simple bearing; it was from three to four feet long, pointed below, and about eighteen inches broad; at first the Norman soldiers inscribed their names upon their shields, and men of family emblazoned them with devices illustrating

the heroic feats of themselves or ancestors; and not rarely the portrait of the bearer was on it displayed, a practice to which indirectly may be ascribed the modern use of armorial devices.

The face of the shield on which the arms are blazoned or expressed is technically known as the field. Fields are diversified: 1st, by Tinctures; 2nd, Points of division; 3rd, Ordinaries; 4th, Sub-ordinaries; and 5th, Partition lines. We will now carefully study these in their respective order, and note well their importance in the science.

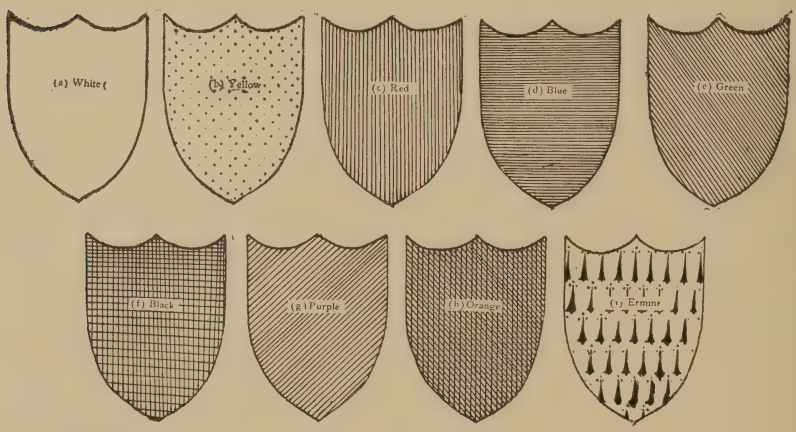
FIRST.—The tinctures or colors used, are nine in number, two metals, six colors, and one fur. These are usually known as, white, yellow, red, blue, green, black, purple, orange and ermine; but these names change according to rank of the individual represented on the shield. Thus the colors of the arms of a sovereign are expressed by the names of heavenly bodies; of noblemen, by precious stones: of knights or gentlemen, by metals; and of countrymen and yoemen, by colors and metals, as the following table will designate:

TINCTURE.	GENTLEMEN.	NOBLEMEN.	SOVEREIGNS
(a) White, (silver)	Argent.	Pearl.	Luna.
(b) Yellow, (gold)	Or.	Topaz.	Sol.
(c) Red, (color)	Gules.	Ruby,	Mars.
(d) Blue, "	Azure.	Saphire.	Jupiter.
(e) Green "	Vert.	Emerald.	Venus.
(f) Black "	Sable.	Diamond.	Saturn.
(g) Purple "	Purpure	Amethyst.	Mercury.
(h) Orange "	Tenney,	Hyacinth.	Dr. Head.
(i) Ermine "	Argent.		Dr. Tail.

Animated beings and all objects that in Heraldry are represented in their natural aspect and coloring, are blazoned "proper."

Tinctures are expressed either by plain surface, dots or lines, as follows:

White, or Argent is of a silvery white, and represented by a plain surface like in Figure (a), and it is



ENG. 14.

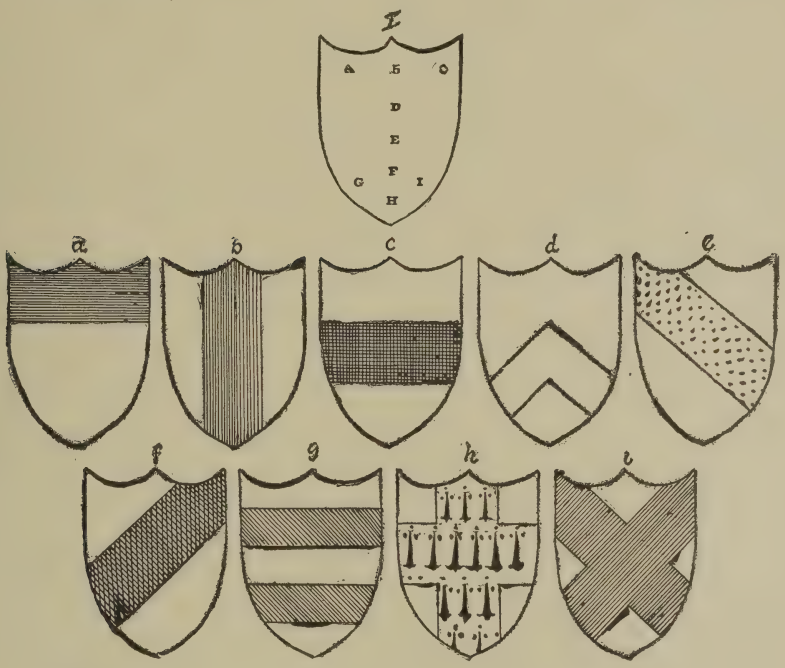
TINCTURES EMPLOYED IN HERALDRY.

usually intended to symbolize purity, innocence, beauty, gentleness, clear conscience and chastity.

Yellow, or gold, is expressed by numerous small black dots like in Fig. (b), and indicated wealth, abundance, power and sovereignty.

Red, or gules, is designated by perpendicular lines as is shown in Fig. (c)., and betokened strength, boldness with hardiness.

Blue, or Azure, is indicated by horizontal lines such as you see in Fig. (d)., and signified virtue and Godly disposition.



ENG. 15.

POINTS OF DIVISION; AND ORDINARY CHARGES.

Green, or Vert, is denoted by diagonal lines drawn from the right upper to the left lower division of the field as shown in Fig. (e)., and meant mirth, love and gladness.

Black, or Sable, is distinguished by perpendicular and horizontal lines, criss-crossing, as shown in Fig.(f).,

and stood for constancy, devine doctrine, and heavy loss of friends.

Purple, or Purpure, is characterized by diagonal lines, drawn from the upper left to the lower right division of the field as shown in Fig. (g)., and represented jurisdiction and rights.

Orange, or Tenney, is specified by perpendicular lines, from the upper left to the lower right division of the field, as shown in Fig, (h)., and characterized, self-esteem, and self-glory.

Ermine, or Fur, is depicted by a particular black-mark on a white ground, as shown in Fig. (i)., and signified slowness, and yet surety.

SECOND.—Next after the Tinctures we study Points, of Division, and these like the Tinctures, we find, are nine in numbers, with as many names. (Eng. 15, Fig 1) (A, Dexter or right side chief; B, middle chief; C Sinister or left side chief; D, Honor point; E, Fess point; F, Naval point; G, Dexter base; H, middle base; I Sinister base. We notice from these divisions that the shield is always described with reference to the position of the bearer, thus bringing the dexter to the right side, opposite the left hand of the observer.

THIRD.—After the Division Points we turn our attention to the Ordinary Charges or Devices, and these too, we learn are nine in number, namely: —

1st. The Chief (Fig. a, Eng. 15), is the upper part, or head of the shield, and covers one-third of the field from which it is parted by a horizontal line. In the figure the chief is *azure*, the lines being horizontal. The diminutives or small Chief is called a Fillet.

2nd. The Pale (Fig. b), is formed by two parallel vertical lines drawn from the middle chief to the middle base, and occupying one-third of the field. It has two diminutives, the Pallet of one-half its size, and the Pally when there are several Pales. In the cut, Pale is *gules* or red.

3d. The Fess (Fig. c), is formed by two paralled horizontal lines drawn through the middle of the field occupying one third of it. Its diminutives the Fessy, but are seldom used. In the figure that Fess is *sable* or black, as horizontal and perpendicular lines criss-cross.

4th. The Shevron (Fig. d), is made like a roof or, rafter, from which it derives its name, by two lines placed pyramidically, that is, joined together at the top and gradually descending to the Dexter and Sinister base divisions of the shield. The diminutive is the Shevronel, which is half the size of the Shevron. In the picture the Shevron is *argent* or silver, since the surface is left plain.

5th, The Bend Dexter (Fig. e), is formed by two diagonal lines drawn from the Dexter chief to the Sinister base, and is one-third of the width of the shield. Its diminutives are the Bendlet or Garter of one-half its

width, and the Riband of one-eighth its width, In the cut the Bend Dexter is *or*, or gold, since the surface is dotted with *sable* dots.

6th. The Bend Sinister (Fig. f), is made by two diagonal lines drawn from the Sinister chief to the Dexter base, and is one-third of the surface of the field. Its diminutives are the Scarpe of one-half its width, and the Baton, of one-fourth its width. In the Eng. the Bend Sinister is *sable* or black, since the horizontal lines are crossed by the perpendicular ones.

7th. The Barry (Fig. g), is formed by two or more horizontal bars dividing the field into several portions. The diminutives are the Barrulet of one-half the width of a bar, and the Closet of one-fourth its width. In the accompanied figure the Barry is represented in *vert*, or green, since the lines are drawn diagonally from the right upper to the left lower division of the field.

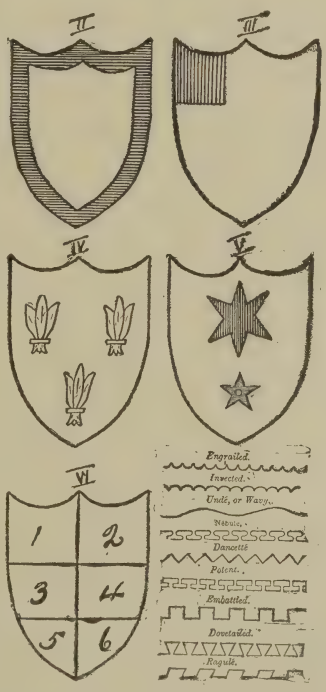
8th. The Cross (Fig. h), is made by a combination of the Pale and Fess, and forms the Greek Cross. Its diminutives are many, but the one mostly used is the Crosslet, which is one half the size of the Cross. In the picture the Cross is shown as *ermine*, the particular black marks being on a plain surface.

9th. The Saltier (Fig i), is formed by the two Bends Dexter, and Sinister crossing each other, making the letter X or the cross of St. Andrew. In the cut above, it is indicated in *purpure* or purple, since the lines are drawn diagonally from the Sinister chief to

the Dexter base. The Saltier has no regular diminutives.

FOURTH.—The Sub-Ordinaries or small devices are too numerous to classify, but we will call attention to the following which are among the most important: The Border, The Canton, The Star and The Lilly-flower; these will represent the many which are of minor value.

The Border or Bordour (Eng. 16), as its name implies, is the margin or lining of the shield, and is borne both plain and charged, and is one-fifth the width of the field, In the accompanying cut it is represented as *azure* or blue, the lines.



ENG. 16.
SUB-ORDINARIES; AND PARTITION LINES.

The Canton (Fig. III), is found in the Dexter or Sinister chief, but when in the left side is called a Canton Sinister. It, like the border, may be borne plain or charged. In the engraving the Canton is shown to be *gules*, the lines being diagonally from Sinister chief to Dexter base.

The Lilly Flower, or Fleur-de-lys. (Fig. IV), derives its name from its resembling the lily. It is one of the Sub-Ordinanies which have no particular location in the field, are found variously either singly or in numbers. The cut shows three Fleur-dé-lys as "*proper*," or in its natural color.

The Star (Fig. V), is of frequent occurrence as an heraldic bearing; it sometimes represents the heavenly body and other times the spur-wheel, on the warriors boot; in the former case it has six rays and is known as an Etoile while in the latter it has five points and is called a Mullet. The cut shows the Star *gules* and the Mullet as *azure*.

Under the same class of Sub-Ordinaries as the Lily Flower are found human beings, animals, vegetables, birds, fish, reptiles, insects, imaginary and fabulous beings, natural objects and various artificial figures and devices. Among these may be mentioned: Soldier and Citizen; Lion and Horse; Lily Flower and Rose; Dove and Eagle; Dolphin and Pike; Snake and Snail; Bee and Bat; Goddess and Fabulous being; Sun and Stars Horse-shoe and Crown; and Scolls and Scenes. In short this class of Sub-Ordinaries include all the charges that are found upon the field of the Shield.

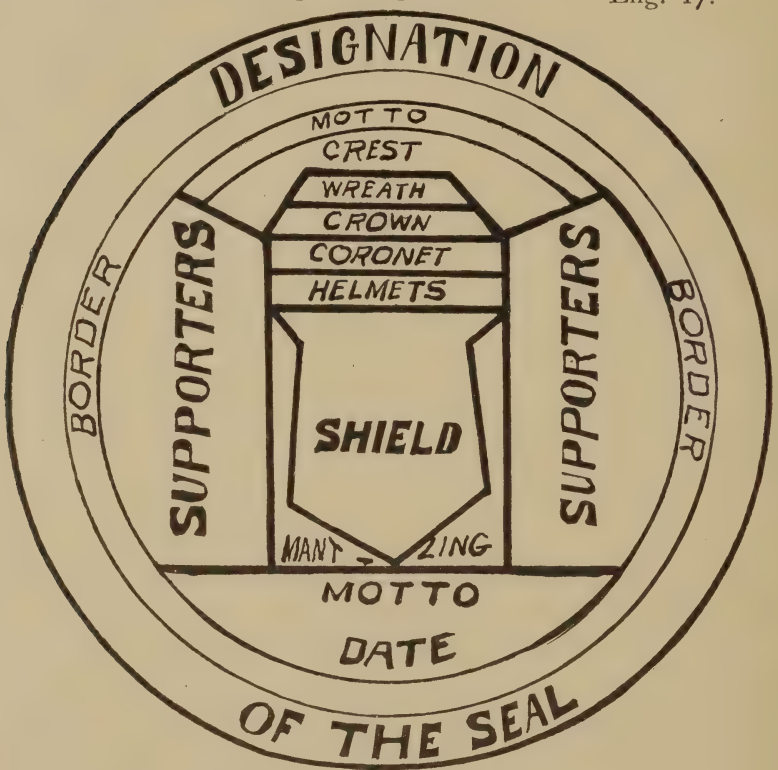
FIFTH.—Partition lines are the last class which we need study on the face of the shield, and (Fig. VI), will define its meaning. These lines are used to quarter or sub-divide the field into two or more portions, thus al-

lowing the parts of the shield to represent several persons or nations. Each part is then considered a separate shield, all blazoned on the one field, for example (Fig. VI), part: 1, might represent England; 2, France; 3, Germany; 4, Spain; 5, Italy; and 6, Greece. The entire field might express that these nations have united their forces in a great war or similar temporary union. The field may be partitioned into two or even as many as twenty parts; and in heraldic terms the horizontal partition lines are known as "*Coupi*," and the perpendicular ones as "*Parti*." Thus in our engraving (Fig. VI) we would say the shield has six quarters, *Parti* one, and *Coupi* two. The lines into which a shield is divided are not always straight, but may assume any of the following nine forms; Engrailed, Invected, Nude, or Wavy Nebule, Daucette, Potent, Embattled, Dove-tailed and Ragule.

Now having finished reviewing the elements of the shield, we will briefly consider the requisites of a seal, which in reality is but a shield with a few outer decorations, figures and devices, representing some special features untold in the shield.

Seals are generally designed with reference to necessaries shown in the cut; but there are some few seals which are made that are direct violations of these heraldic principals, namely: The Shield, Supporters, Helmets, Coronets, Crown, Wreath, Crest, Motto, (superior), Designation, Border, Date, Motto, (inferior), and Mantling.

The Shield in the center of the Seal usually contains the principal charges and colors. Eng. 17.



ENG. 17. NECESSARIES OF A SEAL.

The Supporters are figures standing on each side or behind the shield, as if supporting or guarding it, and when more than one Supporter is shown, the prevalent custom is that they should differ in purpose.

The Helmets are of four kinds, and are placed directly above the middle chief of the shield; those of sovereigns of gold, with six bars; those of princes, of silver, with five bars; those of knights of steel, trimmed with silver and without bars; those of gentlemen of steel, with visor entirely closed.

The Coronets which are immediately above the Helmets, are a mark of nobility; there are four kinds The Duke's, The Marquis's, The Earl's, and The Baron's, which are very similar.

The Crown above the Coronet is an ensign of Royal and Imperial dignity, and should be found on seals of Emperors and Kingdoms.

The Wreath above the Crown is formed of the two principal colors of the arms, and surrounds the top of the Helmet, Coronet or Crown, like a fillet.

The Crest rises from the Wreath and is an ensign of high honor, and their use is restricted to a few persons of eminence.

The Motto (*superior*) above the Crest, is a word, or very short sentence; it might be emblematical, or be the epigramatic expression of some sentiment in special favor with the person or nation bearing it.

The Designation, as the name implies, is the outer circle, which tells what the Seal stands for.

The Border, the inner small circle, is merely added to lend symmetery to the Seal.

The Date is usually near the Border at the Base, and tells the year of some important event.

The Motto (*inferior*) just below the middle base of the shield, is an expressive phrase or war-cry.

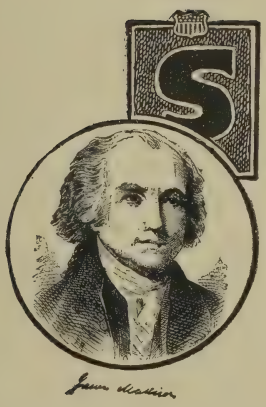
The Mantling is just behind and drapes the sides of the shield,and represents the mantle or cloak which covered the knightly armor.

Well,since we have reviewed the science of Heraldry let us retire for the evening, and to-morrow(Aug. 10th, 1776), hasten to the Independence Hall, and hear the report of the Committee.

CHAPTER IV.

REPORT OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE.

Brave men have spoke the words,
And braver men defend them;
Many battles must be fought,
Many plans must yet be brought
'Ere victory will attend them.
—AUTHOR.



SIX weeks have crept into the past since last we found ourselves in the halls of the Continental Congress. To-day we are come to listen to the report of the committee on The Great Seal.

It is early, however, and Congress has not yet been called to order, and grave men are walking to and fro in the corridors, exchanging a word or two as they pass one another. Their faces wear upon

them an expression of anxiety, which clearly tells us that something of import is this day to be considered or transacted. Occasionally there enters a new-comer, and the restless body slowly moves in his direction, bringing forth, "How are you?" "How do you feel?" and even "Are you with us?" Among these solemn personages, we recognize the leading spirits of the age, and on carefully watching them, we read from their voices and gestures an air of independence, "whose right there is none to dispute."

ENG 18-

INDEPENDENCE HALL 1776.

As the sun climbs toward the noon sky, and the time approaches for the session to open, more life is noticed, and the dignified body sub-

divides into numerous smaller ones, which cluster closely in the private parts of the hall. In one end of the room we observe the learned theological student and lawyer, Robert Treat Paine, and his eager friends, chatting about the effect the Declaration will have on the religious denominations; and if their faces are indicative of their thoughts and mood, we would say they are in the height of their glory.

Just to the right of this oasis of humanity we note a similar group of men, the nucleus of which, judging from the loud peals of laughter of the bystanders, must be the "great humorist and wit," Francis Lightfoot Lee. He undoubtedly is telling in his comic way, a cheerful tale about his visit to the "Social," and ridiculing the voices and manners of some of the sweet dames that were present. He is listened to with such deep interest by the delegates, that they fairly forget the duty of the day and laugh and joke to their hearts content.

Diagonally across the floor to the left in a retired part of the hall, we find a smaller group of men; these however are solemn, and seem to be over-anxious to speak to one another. Especially John Adams, who is explaining to a few around him the devices draughted by himself, Franklin and Jefferson. The latter two are somewhat reserved, but are speaking in low monotones as they point to a small paper containing a drawing.

Ah! here, now comes the tall and dudish president, John Hancock, with a new smile and pleasant greeting for all. He means business, as his quick step will show, and the hour for work has come. Immediately the secretary, Charles Thompson, catches sight of him and they both together walk to their official chairs. A tap of the gavel, and the promiscuously engaged delegates meandered to their respective seats, to hear the orders of the day. With bowed heads they then harkened to the earnest prayer of Chaplain, Reverend Jacob Duche, who thus inspired many still doubting hearts to rise and be patriotic.

The secretary than read the minutes of the previous day's proceedings, and shortly the assembly was in the depth of toil. After disposing of a dozen or so of items of business, Charles Thomson read to the members a letter from General Washington, in which he emphatically reminded Congress of the military duties lying before them. The letter being of much importance it engaged the undivided attention of the delegates, and the discussion which followed clearly demonstrated that the General and the nation's cause, had yet to convince at few of the advisability of battling for national supremacy. It was at this period of the Revol ution that matters appeared very unfavorable for the infant Confederacy. Our few and undisciplined sol diers, with full heart but empty stomachs, were being badly treated by the Tories and shamefully treated by the English.

Shortly after dinner hour, the tall and majestic form of Thomas Jefferson arose, and silence ruled the house; he never speaks but what his lips pour forth suggestions and criticism that solicit the respect of even his fiercest enemies. On this occasion all eyes and attention turn toward him, since he will read the report of the Committee on the Great Seal.

With a trembling hand he holds a paper, and nervously reads as follows: "The Committee to whom was

ENG. 19.

ENG. 20.

CONJOINT DEVICES—REPORTED BY JEFFERSON.

referred on the Fourth day of July last, the duty of preparing a device for a Great Seal of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, beg leave to report the following description 'The Great Seal should on one side have the arms of the United States of America, which arms should be as follows: The shield has six

quarters, *parti*, one, *coupi*, two. The first *or*, an enamelled rose, *gules*, and *argent*, for England; the second *argent*, a thistle *proper*, for Scotland; the third *vert*, a harp, *or*, fourth France; the fifth *or*, the imperial eagle, *sable*, for Germany; and the sixth *or*, the Belgic crowned lion *gules*, for Holland;—pointing out the countries from which the States have been peopled. The shield within a border *gules*, entwined of thirteen escutcheons, *argent*, linked together by a chain *or*, each charged with initial *sable* letters, as follows: 1st, N. H., (New Hampshire); 2nd, Mass., (Massachusetts); 3d, R. I., (Rhode Island); 4th, Conn., (Connecticut); 5th, N. Y.. (New York); 6th, N. J., (New Jersey); 7th, Penn., (Pennsylvania); 8th, Del., (Delaware); 9th, Md., (Maryland); 10th, Va., (Virginia); 11th, N. C., (North Carolina); 12th, S. C., (South Carolina); 13th, Ga., (Georgia);—for each of the thirteen independent States of America.

"*Supporters, dexter*, the Goddess of Liberty, in a corslet of armor, in allusion to the then state of war, and holding in her right hand the spear and cap, and with her left supporting the shield of the States; *sinister*, the Goddess of Justice, bearing a sword in her right hand, and in her left a balance.

"*Crest*, the eye of Providence in a radiant triangle, whose glory extends over the shield and beyond the figures; motto, '*E Pluribus Unum.*'

"*Legend* round the whole achievement. 'Seal of the United States of America, MDCCLXXVI.'

"On the other side of the said Great Seal should be the following device:

"Pharaoh sitting in an open chariot, a crown on his head, and a sword in his right hand, passing through the divided waters of the Red Sea, in pursuit of the Israelites. Rays from a pillar of fire in the cloud, expressive of the divine presence and command, beaming on Moses, who stands on the shore, and extending his hand over the sea, causes it to overthrow Pharaoh.

"*Motto*, '*Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God.*'"

Without any additional remarks, after having finished reading, he quietly took his seat, with an expression of triumph marked clearly on his countenance.

The President than referred the report to the assembly, waiting patiently for their immediate action.

After an interval of a few moments, Mr. Morris took the floor, and in brief stated his approval of the device submitted, and thought that "a more appropriate design could hardly be draughted;" but he failed to make any motion or suggestion as to its adoption. Hardly had this gentleman taken his chair when one of the *doubting* delegates sprang to his feet, and said:— "Mr. President: I think the consideration of the device entirely premature, especially since we have before us more important business, and moreover, the outlook

at present for the Confederacy is such as would indicate that we need not hurry about a seal until we have established our independence, other than on mere paper."

Tom Paine next held the right of the floor, and in his usual deliberate and thoughtful way, said: "I beg to differ materially from the gentlemen who just spoke, in so much as I am of the opinion that the Seal is timely, and its consideration proper. I heartily approve of the obverse which brings to bear prominently, the Goddess of Liberty and Justice; still the reverse may suit many, but I, for one, would object to displaying any scenes or incidents relative to Biblical or Religious matters." The remarks of Paine brought forth the usual religious and non-religious disputes and one of the doubting delegates, perceiving an opportunity to close the discussion, and thus afford an early adjournment of Congress, moved that the report of the Committee on the Great Seal be tabled. Immediately there came a second to the motion, and the mover sneeringly referred to the elaborate and yet unsatisfactory device, This quickly brought in sight the bald-headed John Adams, who was restlessly listening to the wrangle, but the climax was reached when the gentleman disrespectfully referred the work of the committee. Admas became indignant, and fired such a volley of reproofs and rebukes at the gentleman, that the insulter cowered behind his desk like a whipped dog. The chair ruled Mr. Adams out of order, and put the motion that was pending be-

fore the house; and, sorry to say, the motion was carried, and thus the great and superlative work of the Committee was shelved for some future day.

A motion to adjourn followed, and was unhesitatingly carried; the tired and haggard looking delegates anxiously poured forth from the warm and sultry Continental Hall, and soon were lost among the various cool places for recreation.

Well! kind and eager listeners, we have heard the long looked for report, and no doubt a sense of inquisitiveness leads you to ask, "I wonder how the Committee came to report the devices they did, and how and where did they get valuable suggestions; besides, what in reality do the devices signify?" The solution of these questions of mind can only be reached by traveling back about six weeks, and learning what transpired in the Committee Room where all was draughted. This I know all will gladly do, and thither I sincerely invite all to accompany me.

CHAPTER V.

MEETING OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE.

God save the Thirteen States!
Long watch the prosperous fates,
Over our States.
Make us victorious,
Happy and glorious,
No tryants over us,
God save our States!
—LULLY.

NEW houses of early Philadelphia can boast of grander historic associations than the London Coffee House, which still stands at the south-west corner of Front and Market streets. This celebrated house was for years, and especially during the Revolution, the focus for all manner of genteel visitors; here the statesmen of '76, and other persons of note,

came at appointed hours, and sat down at plain oaken tables to sip their coffee fresh from the steaming urn. Some of the familiar callers had their regular stalls, and, perhaps, the most frequent and habitual customers of this memorable tavern were Thomas Paine, Robert Morris, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and Francis Lee.

Although the house bore a modest name, it served liquids more narcotic than coffee; and Tom Paine's "delight" was so well known that even a "look of desire' would cause the servant to bring him a "spilling full' glass of brandy: after the third glass, the speed of his' pen was marvelous, and his thoughts were "lightning chains." The other compatriots, with few exceptions, were usually well satisfied with "good warm coffee and a piece of bread and cheese."

The place was not only a tavern, but also had, in the upper story, the spacious printing establishment of Mr. Will Bradford, who for years edited here that loyal and patriotic newspaper, *The Pennsylvania Journal*; this fact aided in drawing patriots, statesmen, students and gossipers to the rooms below. In short, the house was noted as a center where many important events were first discussed and sometimes decided; here was thoroughly discussed the Declaration of Independence; here, many secret committees transacted vital business, and here, often met the Philadelphia city council and passed memorable ordinances.

This locality was famous for various historic scenes. Here, at an early date, Philadelphians bought and sold negro men, women and children as slaves; here, the "Stamp Act" papers were publicly burned, kindling, within the hearts of the spectators unquenchable fires of

ENG. 22.

LONDON COFFEE HOUSE,—PHILADELPHIA.

patriotism. Here, the effigies of Gov. Hutchinson, of Massachusetts, with double face was burned, he having given offense to "Philadelphia's soul," Benjamin Franklin. The lawyer, Mr. Isaac Hunt, was brought here in his "coat of tar and feathers," and made to humbly acknowledge his errors, while the people stood about and laughed until night obliged them to seek retire-

ment. And here, on the 8th of July, 1776, immediately after the first reading of the Declaration of Independence in public by John Nixon; the citizens collected the Royal Arms and other tokens of English sovereignty, and destroyed them in a mid-day *bonfire*, thus obliterating all marks of British tyranny and misrule.

On ground thus sacred, and in a building thus distinguished, on the afternoon of July 9th. 1776, as per request of chairman, Benjamin Franklin, our worthy Committee met to propose and prepare devices for a Great Seal, for the yet struggling Confederacy.

The day was growing warm and sultry: open windows stared at dusty streets, and yeomen drove their nags quietly along the road.

On the piazza of the tavern, on a rude bench, sat the dignified Benjamin Franklin, awaiting the coming of the other members of the Committee. Occasionally he would glance at the newspaper in his hands, but briefly only, since the many passers by and guests of the tavern, frequently interrupted him with a "How is the Doctor?" Towards three o'clock, the prompt chairman became uneasy, and his face revealed a mind deep in anxious thought. Shortly after the the town clock announced the hour of three, the plump Bostonian was seen coming down Front street, in the direction of the Coffee House, slow of gait, and panting in the sweltering heat. On arrival, he excused himself with the usual apology.

"I have too many things calling my attention."

"I do not understand what can be delaying Jefferson," said Franklin; "unless it be sad news from his sick wife."

"Hardly," responded Adams, "for I saw him yesterday, and he seemed happy over a letter he had just received from her."

"Then, no doubt," returned Franklin, "he will be here soon, for when I saw him last he promised to be on time if tidings from home were favorable."

As Franklin had said the last word, around the corner came rapidly a heavy-set, healthy looking Frenchman, Du Simitiere by name, who seemed unusually familiar with Franklin and Adams; as he sat down near them, he drew from his pocket a roll of paper and anxiously handed it to Franklin, who, without undoing it, returned it, saying, "We will look at it later, when Jefferson is with us."

Du Simitiere had been requested to attend the Committee meeting, he being the most expert pen-and-pencil artist in Philadelphia. He was a West India Frenchman, who took great interest in the American cause; his attention was early called to the fact that in America, artists were in demand; and, in consequence, he began painting profiles in black, of distinguished Americans and caricatures of prominent Englishmen engaged in the war. His paintings and miniatures had attracted general attention, which led the committee to engage him to sketch devices for a Seal.

Franklin and Adams were still thoughtfully conferring together when Du Simitiere returned the roll of paper to his pocket. Franklin then arose, looked up Market street, and said: "We must not wait longer for Jefferson; the day is far gone, and as yet we have accomplished nothing."

Thereupon the other two gentlemen left the bench and accompanied Franklin into the tavern. A moment later, we find them up stairs in a rear room of the printing office, seated at a long and neatly covered table, ready for work.

"Well!" said Franklin to Du Simitiere, "what have you of interest to present?"

"Not much, I am afraid," replied the Frenchman, "still I am convinced I have among my designs, something that will prove worthy. However, of late I have been so busy drawing pictures and caricatures of the English for the *Journal*, that little time could I find for these designs. I have drawn them out rudely, still they will illustrate the ideas intended. Gentlemen, you have not the slightest idea how many callers I have, all wanting my services *immediately*. Mr. Adams can verify this, for when he called on me, a week ago, he was obliged to wait, since my office was crowded even for standing room. I received letters from persons in every part of the new Confederacy, all asking me to favor them with an appropriate design for a State Seal. And I dare say, Mr. Chairman, I was not a little sur-

prised to be requested by this committee to prepare sketches for the Great Seal of the United States."

"You forgot to mention," added Mr. Adams, "that you were also called upon to draft fitting designs for medals: and while I now think of it, how are you getting along with the Medal commemorative to the evacuation of Boston by the British; you remember I requested you to bring the designs with you to-day?"

"I have brought them," replied Du Simitiere, and I thought I would show them and the Seal designs together, that you gentlemen might select out of all, what you deem the best."

"I believe," observed Franklin, "that we shall have a comparatively easy task to suit Congress, for we have many devices to pick from; I, alone, have upward of twelve suggestions on paper for a Seal, received from delegates to Congress and other prominent persons, among them, one from President Hancock; in fact, even the school boys have sent me, what I consider a fair specimen."

"I think the same," returned Adams, "still we must not be hasty in our decision, since if what we consider appropriate, be adopted by Congress, I, for one am anxious for a Seal which will be in every respect worthy of the nation it is to represent."

"You are right, Mr. Adams," said Franklin, as he brought from his deep vest pocket his big watch, and

continued, "nearly half-past three, and still Jefferson is not here." He had scarcely spoken, when the familiar, rapid step of Jefferson, was heard on the stairs.

"Here he comes!" exclaimed Du Simitiere, as he arose and went to the door to usher him in.

"Gentlemen, good day! excuse my tardiness; I met

ENG. 23.

COMMITTEE ON SEAL IN SESSION.

Paine at the State House, and you all know, when he begins to converse, you must hear him safely through," said Jefferson, as he huriedly pulled off his coat and seated himself at the Committee table.

"What interesting theme had Paine in mind to-day," asked Adams; "about some parson, no doubt?"

"Never mind about that now," said Franklin, "he certainly had nothing more absorbing than the matter we have before us." Du Simitiere gave his peculiar laugh, as he noticed with what good spirits the discreet Franklin got the two young statesmen to work.

"Quite right, Doctor," replied Jefferson, with an intelligent glance at Adams, "we must be at work, and very important work we have before us, too. Yet it is a pleasant task, and I know the world is interested in the matter, as I judge from the manner in which my mail of late has been flooded with pen-sketches for the Seal. But gentlemen, notwithstanding I am thoroughly willing to fulfill the wish of Congress and of our beloved land, still I think it somewhat unfair that we three are continually put upon Committees whose work is of a critical character. Hardly have we rested our minds and pens from the toil of the 'Declaration', when again we are heavily taxed with this delicate business."

"We may justly complain, Mr. Jefferson," said Adams, "but I dare say, I get a good share of extra work. Not only is my mind deeply absorbed in divising for a Great Seal, but you will remember I am also on the Committee to prepare a Gold Medal, commemorative of the evacuation of Boston, and this, also, takes much of my time."

"Do not depreciate the grand work put before you, gentlemen; I am getting to be an old man, but I feel it to be the honor of my life to be thought worthy of a place on important Committees," said Franklin. "In fact, many less able to do the work than are we, would gladly accept the charge without a murmur."

"'Tis true, Mr. Chairman," returned Jefferson, "those in the field of battle are one great Committee, and their work is far more trying and fearful than our own. But, gentlemen, it does please me to see that our past toils are appreciated, a stimulus, certainly, for us to continue our good labor. We are not the only Committee-men devising Seals, who are troubling their minds about something *appropriate*. I received a letter from our dear friend, Mr. Page, which clearly shows that the United States and the thirteen separate States, are in much perplexity about a Seal. In his letter he says: 'Mr. Whythe and myself have devised a proper Seal for the State of Virginia, and knowing as we do that there is not an expert engraver in the province, I write and ask you, if can get the work done in Philadelphia? If you can we must get the favor of having it done immediately--the engraver may want to know the size;--this *you* may determine, unless Mr. Whythe should direct the dimensions. The engraver may also be at loss for a *Virtus* and *Liberatas*, but you may refer him to Spence's Polymetis, which must be in some library in Philadelphia.' So you see," continued Jefferson, as he returned Page's letter

to the envelope, " Patrick Henry, our governor, is in great haste for a Seal. And good right he has to be so, for all the commissions and appointments he will be called upon to issue, will be without validity, unless an impression in sealing wax is stamped upon them. I have endeavored to favor our friend Page with an engraver, but after a long and tiresome search, tramping through all the streets in Philadelphia, I hopelessly surrender Even, Mr. Chairman, if we devise an agreeable Seal, we cannot have it engraved for months, since there is not a Seal-engraver this side of the Atlantic."

" Send it to an English engraver," muttered Du Simitiere, " and thus spite the Bri tish."

" No! no! gentlemen! we are advancing prematurely with our ideas," remarked the sage Chairman, " we must first get a Seal on our sketch paper, before we think of engraving it. Let us not count the chickens before they're hatched."

Again Franklin reminded the Committee of the immediate work before them; then looking at Du Simitiere, and glancing at the other two gentlemen, he said, " What have we in the way of suggestions and devices? I think we will let our experienced sketcher speak first, giving account of his search; after which, let us carefully consider the merits, and present our own designs."

Du Simitiere immediately opened the roll of paper, and displayed a few of his quickly drawn pen-sketches.

BIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENT.

In a letter to his wife, John Adams writes the following of the French artist:—

"Philadelphia, 14. August, 1776. There is a gentleman here of French extraction, whose name is Du Simitiere, a painter by profession, whose designs are very ingenious (reference to the sketches of the Great Seal) and his drawings well executed. This M. Du Simitière is a very curious man. He has begun a collection of materials for a history of this Revolution. He begins with the first advices of the tea ships. He cuts out of the newspapers every scrap intelligence and every piece of speculation, and pasted it upon clean paper, arranging them under the head of that State to which they belong, and intends to bind them up in volumes. He has a list of every speculation and pamphlet concerning forms of Government."

Although a Frenchman by birth and education, he wrote and spoke our language readily; and being without a family and his mind turned to the curiosities of literature and natural history, he spent much time in forming collections. He has left five quarto volumes of his curious Manuscripts in the Public Library of Philadelphia. As he advanced in life, he became more needy and occupied himself in drawing portraits and pictures in water colors of distinguished scenes and personages,

connected with our war for independence. He lived in Philadelphia before and about the time of the Revolution and before that, in New York City prior to which, in the West Indies.

His whole collections may be deemed the curious gleanings of a curious mind, and among the seeming

ENG. 24.

M. DU SIMITIERE.

rubbish may be found some day, useful, important and unexpected elucidations of difficult points in the history of our country.

The time of his birth is conjectural, some placing it

at 1738 and others at 1740; but his nativity is put for a certainty in the West Indies.

Perhaps the most interesting subject in his M. S. S. is the Minutes of the Continental Congress, with additional notes by himself; they also contain some intercepted valuable letters and autographs of distinguished Amerieans of that early time.

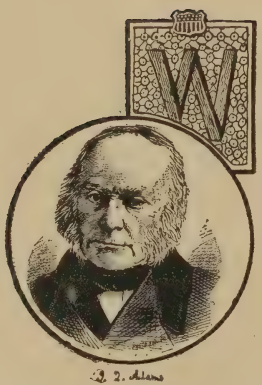
His place and time of death I was unable to determine, but we trust he lived to a ripe old age since he was in the Language of the Philadelphia Librarian (J. G. Barnwell). "A peculiar man but a great benefactor to old Philadelphia."

CHAPTER VI.

DU SIMITIERE'S DESIGN.

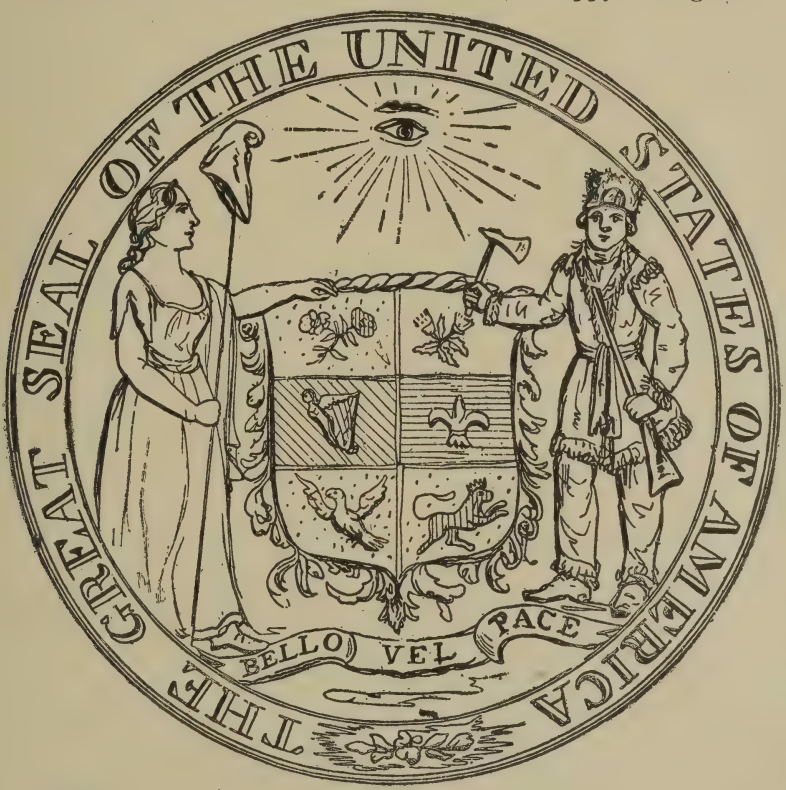
This life would be a dreary one
If we were all chained-slaves,
'T were better than our life were done
And we were in our graves.
But as it is, some few there be
Who live with freedom's ease—
They're governed by sweet *Liberty*,
Who lets them do as they please.

—AUTHOR.



"WELL! Gentlemen of the Committee," said Du Simitiere, "it will be impossible for me to describe to you the full meaning of my design, and therefore I will submit it to you, and let you guess its significance." This said, he handed the sketch to Franklin, who, after giving it an intelligent glance, passed it to the other two gentlemen, who in turn viewed the device critically.

The Committee spoke only words of high praise and compliment. Jefferson immediately sanctioned the idea of the shield, and said it was a happy thought.



ENG 26.

DU SIMITIERE'S DESIGN OF SEAL.

Franklin was pleased to see the eye of Providence, and hoped Congress would appreciate that emblem. Adams

believed the design exceedingly appropriate, especially since the Goddess of Liberty was so strongly represented.

As the afternoon was uncomfortably warm, and night slowly creeping on, but little time was taken for minute consideration, and the Committee next heard Franklin's device.

But as the temperature at present, kind readers is highly agreeable, let us first thoroughly analyze the grand design presented by the queer Frenchman, and then pass on to the others.

DU SIMITIERE'S DESIGN.

The design may lack much in artistic execution, still the devices found upon it are very appropriate, and mean more than would appear at first glance; and the composition is in close harmony with the general principles of the Science of Heraldry. Each component part covers a story of deep interest, and we shall learn a lesson of historic value in following up, its nearly obliterated traces.

THE SHIELD is of Norman pattern. The idea of representing the arms of the several nations whence America is peopled, is a good one, though not original with Du Simitiere. This conception he undoubtedly copied from an English-Colonial copper penny then in circulation, which had, on its obverse side the bust of King George III; on the reverse side a shield with four quart-

erings, displaying the royal arms of Great Britian; the first quartering on this penny contained the Lion of England; the second, the Fleur-de-lis of France; the third, the Harp of Ireland; the fourth, the Lion of Scotland; in all representing the several countries from which Great Britian has been populated.

ENG. 27

VIRGINIA PENNY, 1775.

Du Simitiere, in his proposed shield, improved on this by adding two quarterings more, and changing the devices to suit the different nationalities of our own country.

First Quartering symbolized the English inhabitants of this country and placed first upon the shield to indicate that they were a primary factor in the new confederacy. English civilization was planted among the forests of America as early as 1607, in the colony of Virginia; in later years we find the English settlements in all the original thirteen States, and in them were found the strongest advocates of the Independence of the colonies. The Puritans in particular were the nucleus around which the spirit of freedom hovered. As an emblem of the land from which they came, the white and red roses on a field of *gold*, were primarily blazoned. The English-Americans were thus reminded of the bloody war for supremacy between the two houses, Lancaster and

York, known to the world as the "War of Roses."

How England came to be involved in the civil war, and why the roses became the English emblem, indirectly interests us in our study of the seal. About the year 1450, the English had beaten the French. A variety of events, however, among them the exploits of Jean of Arc, changed the fortunes of the contest, and in 1451, the French had recovered all their domain, except Calais. The loss of their French possessions, compelled the nobles of Britain to confine their ambitious schemes to their own country, and soon they were involved in a war for supremacy. According to tradition, one spring afternoon, 1451, the *white* and *red* roses were first chosen during the momentous dispute in the Temple Garden, between Duke Somerset of the Lancaster house, and the Earl of Warwick of the house of York. The former to collect suff-rages of the hundreds of bystanders, plucked a *red rose*, and the latter, a *white rose*; each leader then called upon every man present to declare his party feelings, by taking a rose of the same color, as chosen by him whose cause he favored. This was the prologue of England's most bloody civil war, precipitated by the ambition of two weak and miserable men. Upwards of thirty years had elapsed before the struggle ended; and in 1485, after thousands of brave men had been slaughtered, the Lancasterians conquered, and crowned their King Henry VII. He married his cousin, Elizabeth of York, and by this union the rival roses were reconciled. In

the marriage procession each partisan of Lancaster gave his hand to a lady of the York house, holding a bouquet of roses, red and white.

Second Quartering was intended for Scotland, a thistle in its *proper* color on an *argent* field, representing Scotch people as included in our national fold. The Scotch came to America in 1736, and formed a prosperous colony in Georgia, and later in the Carolinas. Never were stauncher friends and lovers of independence. These, like the majority of newcomers from Europe, suffered religious oppressions in their foreign homes, and came to our shores for "conscience sake." Their emblem on the proposed Seal is a peculiar one, but the thistle was the chosen memento of their forefathers; and the history of it like all the other emblems on the proposed shield are of definite worth in the analysis of the evolution of our Seal.

About the year 1010, the Danes invaded Scotland, intending to storm a fortress of some importance. Midnight was the time selected for the attack, and as their presence was unknown and unlooked for, they expected to succeed without much trouble in gaining possession of the strong-hold. The Danes advanced slowly and silently, and, to prevent the possibility of their footsteps being heard, they took off their shoes. They reached the place, and they had only to swim the moat and extend the scaling-ladders, and the castle would be theirs; but in another moment, a cry from the invaders themselves, awakened

the inmates to a sense of their danger; the guards flew to their posts, the soldiers mounted and pursued the Danes. The sudden change had arisen from a simple cause. It happened the trench instead of being filled with water, was dried up and overgrown with thistles, which piercing the unprotected feet of the Danes, caused them to forget their cautious silence, and utter the alarm-cry to the rivals in the castle. Thus was the thistle the means of saving Scotland, and was thenceforth adopted as the national emblem.

James II. of Scotland had the thistle painted on the national standard in 1440, and also designed on the money of the Kingdom. The well known and ancient Order of the Thistle was instituted by James VII. in 1687; their insignia consisted of an image of St. Andrew and his cross surrounded by thistle, with the motto: *Nemo me impune lacessit*—"No one injures me with impunity."

Third Quartering, green, with a harp of *gold,* was to be the respected symbol of Ireland, and was placed upon the shield as a token to the Irish patriots who took an active part in the war for independence; in fact, having brought over with them a spirit of dislike and revenge against England, they fought most bravely in our struggle. Six thousand Irish came to this country in 1729, and dispersed and settled throughout the colonies, principally in Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas. From among these devout settlers, sprang some of the

most prominent and influen(ial colonists.

The musical instrument which symbolizes the land of Erin, was an attributive ensign of the Goddess Hibernia, the patroness of early Ireland. As early as the 5th century, the harp was so common in Erin, that hardly a peasant house was without one. The old laws of Wales and Erin the Triads specified the use of the harp as one of the three things necessary to distinguish a *freeman* or gentleman from a slave. Pretenders were discovered by their unskillfulness in "playing of the harp." The same laws forebade a slave to touch a harp, either out of curiosity or to acquire a knowledge of it, and none but the King, his musicians and other gentlemen were permitted to possess one. The harp was free from seizure for debt as it was presumed that he who had no harp, lost his po sition and was degraded to the condition of a slave.

The Irish are not the only nation that have cherished the harp,for we find that the ancient Egyptians bore it among their emblems of State. The old Franks and Germans, also, highly esteemed the instrument, and even punished those severely who injured a harpist's hand. The Irish monarchs being styled "bards," their standard bore a harp; Queen Elizabeth was the first English sovereign to assume the harp as a part of the Royal Arms of Britian.

Fourth Quartering was supposed to do honor to the French, and every student of American history must admit that these people played an important part in the

great and memorable war for freedom. On a *blue* field was placed their national symbol, the *Fleur-de-lys*, or Lilly Flower. These people came to our chime as early as 1706, and built their homes and tilled the soil of New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Georgia and Carolinas. The immediate and valuable assistance, the colonies received from France and her people, the new government was *over-anxious* to remember.

The history of the Fleur-de-lys is a queer one, and yet not so strange after we learn minutely its origin. Ancient heralds tell us that the French had a custom at the proclamation of their King to elevate him upon a shield or target, and place in his hand a reed in blossom, instead of a scepter; and from thence the Kings of the first and second race in France are represented with scepter in their hands, and which borne lily-flowers; through this kingly ceremony, the flower became the armorial figure of France. Another legend tells us that it came to be known as the French emblem, from the fact that this flower was the favorite blossom of King Louis VII, and for generations it was known as the Fleur-de-louis; later on, the "ou" was omitted, leaving it Fleur-de-lis. It was displayed on the coinage at an early date, and usually in threes, as a symbol of the Divine Trinity. It was first borne on a royal Seal by Louis VII, 1137, and has remained, with slight changes, ever since.

Fifth Quartering, in honor of the German settlers, was a *golden* field and upon it the imperial black eagle

of Germany. The Germans were late in coming to our country, but by their great perseverance and industry they made up lost time. The forest fell before their axes like grain before the sickle,and their cottages soon thickly dotted the States of Pennsylvania, New York, Delaware and the Carolinas. To them we owe much credit for having hastened the Independence of the colonies: upwards of fourteen months before the Declaration by the thirteen, the Germans and Scotch-Irish of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, had assembled, and by a Declaration, proclaimed themselves free from British sovereigns. The effect of this soon spread, and similar resolutions were presently passed by the other colonies. To remind these thrifty colonists of their "Fatherland," the arms of Germany were prominent on the proposed Seal.

The history of the emblem of the German race extends to ancient records, as they figured on royal standards for ages. It was placed upon the Prussian arms as early as A. D. 800. Perhaps the reason why this bird was selected, lies in the fact that the only country in which it is found, is Germany; it seldom has been out side of that Kingdom. Of all the species of eagles that are or have been blazoned on standards, the imperial black is the only one emblematic of nativity. The Germans claim he is the only specie that typified patriotism or "love of home."

Sixth Quartering was to identify the Dutch people

with the new government, and the red lion of Holland with Belgic Crown was placed upon a field of *gold*. The Dutch took deep interest in early America. They planted a colony in 1623 on Manhattan Island, for which they paid the Indians $24.00, or about one cent per acre, where New York city now stands, and called it New Amsterdam. Like its mother country, this Dutch settlement in America was thrown freely open to persons of all nations and religions; and before many years had elapsed, upwards of eighteen languages were spoken in the new domain. These cheerful and hearty people built homes, and leisurely shaped farms in New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and parts of Pennsylvania, and when the war for Indepenpence broke out, we find these honest settlers in the front ranks of the various states. And thus the red lion was blazoned on the shield on the new ideal Seal.

The lion for ages has figured on standards and ensigns as the symbol of power. According to the Bible, Judah, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, chose for his standard a lion couchant, on a scarlet field,and has each of these forms should symbolize is obvious, still let us closely study and know that we comprehend fully the wish of the designer.

Dexter Supporter, with the emblem of liberty on a staff, is well calculated for a Seal expressive of the Liberty-loving people comprising the Confederacy; it finely indicated, also, the war for Freedom, into which the col-

onies had just been initiated. Its position on the right-hand side of the shield, designates that she was to be the primary supporter of it; and her face being directed towards the shield and its sinister supporter, showed that she was supreme guardian, and would cautiously care for the welfare of the people who cherished her. In her right hand she held a staff, *or*, upon which was perched a liberty cap *azure*; and her low-cut gown, with short sleeves, *gules*, and her boots proper.

The history of this benign goddess is one of which every patriotic American must feel proud, especially since her first appearance in modern times was in our country, and her biography begins with the heroes of '76; by some mysterious incident, she called upon the early colonists, and being tenderly as well as hospitably cared for, remained to encourage the brave settlers to "rise and strike for freedom." She so perfumed the air with a love for this "human privilege," that early in 1770 we find, for the first time in the modern records of man, her shapely form dignifying the title page of *The Boston Gazette*. Up to this time she was an imaginary and shapeless goddess, believed to hover in atmospheres, containing essence of freedom; but in this memorable year she descended from her aerial throne and came to mother earth. In her first appearance, she is portrayed as seated upon a rude stool, with a shield bearing the Anglo insignice of the crosses of Saints George and Andrew; in her left hand, a staff, upon which we see the cap of Lib-

erty; and on a pedestal near her, a bird-cage, the door of which she has just opened, setting at liberty the confined prisoner. From this date on, we see her smiling face and feminine beauty, enlightening the dark paths of the oppressed, and inspiring these Americans to break the shackles of bondage, and breathe nature's free breath.

The only emblem, heretofore representing Liberty,

Y C

J C

vices, *For*

MONDAY, March 12, 1770.

mann matters, now put ſpeedily into execution, will ſuffice to recover us from bondage, and ſet all right.—What I have ſaid, is the language of th GOOD OLD CAUSE: If it ſeem ſtran VO

ENG 28.

GODDESS OF LIBERTY (BOSTON GAZETTE, 1770).

was a conical cap, and this we find has a more ancient history than the goddess herself claims. She may have as is natural to suppose, existed before the time of the cap, but she was never in modern days represented or

connected with this head-dress and emblem, until American imaginations gave birth to her in the fierce struggle with England, for "man's rights." From the time of our Revolution on, we see her and her cap invariably associated, and not rarely either, as historical archives will go to prove.

The cap is of Phrygian origin, and belongs to classical times. The Phrygians inhabited the eastern part of Asia-Minor, and they distinguished themselves from the primitive inhabitants by wearing their national cap as sign of liberty and independence; and this cap we find was stamped upon their coins and seals as early as 750 B. C. These people were brave but brutal, and were occupied with agricultural pursuits; they originally dwelt in caves or habitations hollowed out of the rocky hillside. These abodes they gradually abandoned for regular and well-built cities, and soon had a fairly organized monarchy, the line of kings lasting about two centuries.

Later on the cap was adopted by the Romans, and when a slave was manumited or emancipated, they placed a small red cap, called a pileus on his head, which proclaimed him a freeman. The first slave or bondman manumitted by the Romans and made a citizen of Rome, was Vindicus, this was during the reign of Camillus 365 before Christ.

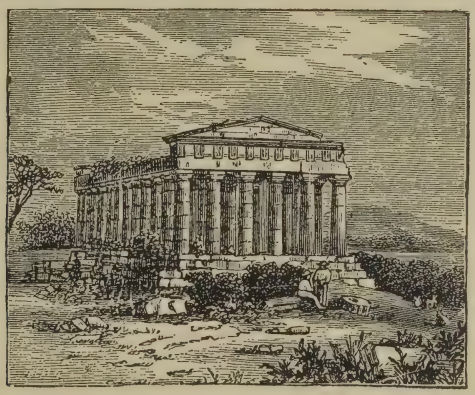
When Salturnius took the capital in 263, he hoisted a cap on a spear to indicate that all slaves who joined

him would be free; and on his banners these words "Seroos and pileum", to summon slaves to freedom, i. e.,—to call them to assume the pileus or cap of liberty. When Caesar was murdered, the conspirators raised a Phrygian cap on a spear as a token of the Liberty they desired.

ENG. 29.
ROMAN LIBERTY-CAP.

Thus in early ancient times this cap was held as a symbol of Liberty, and as generations rolled on the Roman freemen were so filled with love for the simple token of freedom that a Goddess was concieved in the mind of Tiberious Gracchus a noble spirited Roman Statesman. This was about 135 B. C. when multitudes of slaves were brought into Italy and the entire lands were owned by a few large proprietors, who employed slave labor almost exclusively in the cultivation of the soil. Gracchus sided with the slaves and erected on Mount Aventine, one of the seven hills of Rome, a temple with the new born Goddess of Liberty, where for the first time on earth, devotion to her worship was given; within the walls of the temple were deposited the archives of State.

They named the Goddess, *Libertas*, an appropriate choice, and she was represented as a beautiful Roman matron clothed in *white*. In one hand she held a broken scepter in the other a pike surmounted by a *pileus*, or Phrygian cap, one of those caps worn by freemen in Rome, and placed upon the heads of slaves when they



ENG. 30.

ROMAN TEMPLE OF LIBERTY.

were endowed with freedom.

At her feet rested her favorite animal, the animal sacred to her; but this was not the bird-of-freedom, with which in our modern Republic she is associated: it was a cat. The "harmless, necessary cat," as a symbol of Liberty, seems strange to us at first, but it was selected because all creatures of the cat tribe, hate restraint, cer-

tainly there are no animals more wild and at liberty than the great cats (Lion and Tiger) of the African and Indian forests, and even our common pussy is domestic with limitations. The connection between freedom, the feline race, more over seems still to be felt in the minds of modern poets. The Romans rendered her great honor and upon her lavished as to Juno, Venus and Diana.

Among the Roman slaves the month of December was held most dear and sacred, since Saturnalia, or festival of Saturn, held in the middle of this month, the slaves were permitted to engage with their masters with perfect *freedom* in all games, amusements and feasting. The festival was a sort of a harvest-home, when all fruits of the earth were garnered and it was regarded as a period of relaxation and unrestrained merriment. All business was suspended. The law courts and schools were closed. The slaves were exempted from ordinary labor and allowed to wear the *pileus* or badge of freedom The masters and slaves partook of a banquet and the latter were dressed in the clothes of their masters, while the former waited upon the slaves at the table and elsewhere. The festival was intended to call to mind the happy times—the Golden age spoken of by the poets—"When, in very ancient ages, Saturn reigned and there was perfect *equality* and unalayed happiness among all mortals." The poet says of this month and festival:—

"Though in December, frost asserts its reign,
Yet in the kindly bosom of old Earth

"The seeds in the heat are nurished. Now the slaves,
Born in his master's house, has *freedon full,*
And feeds from dishes by his master served.
So is recalled the happy Golden Age
When Saturn reigned, and all the earth was full
Of joyous people."

The Greeks also had their worship of Liberty although no goddess bearing the name held place in their mythology. The Eleutheria or Festival of Liberty was celebrated once in five years at the town of Plalaca, when delegates from all the Grecians cities being present to take part in the solemnity. There was a procession led by trumpeters sounding the call to battle; a bull was sacrificed and the occasion was further celebrated by sports and contests, similar to the famous Olympic games. The whole people shared in the rejoicings and to each class was allowed some part of the ceremony. The Phrygian cap was the sacred token of the day and laurel branches were strewn in all the streets where the procession marched.

Thus the cap of liberty emigrated from Phrygia to Greece and thence to Rome; but we find that it did not stop here but in 44 A. D. we find it on the Arms and Seal of ancient London; that city was then under Roman dominion and the mayor or magistrate of the town had over his tribune or judgment-seat a Phrygian cap bearing the monogram S. P. Q. R.; (*Senatus populus Que Romanus*: Senate and People of Rome); the staff which supported the *pilius* was blue, the color of the Roman

people and army, and purple representing the Roman senate and nobility; these colors were disposed like twisted ribbons; the "sword of mercy" and the club of Hercules also figured in this ancient bearing of London.

The English people since have changed the Phrygian cap to *blue*, with a *white* border; and Britania is represented holding it on the end of a spear.

After that time we find little trace of the Goddess and her cap until a much later period.

ENG. 31.
ARMS OF LONDON.

The ancient Saxons wore the cap as their ordinary head-gear, but without the meaning attached. She was not popular during the middle ages; the multitudinous banners, badges and devices of chivalric times payed little regard to *Libertas*.

In modern times the cap was reproduced by the Americans, and perhaps the the first time it was used in a national sense, was 1775, when we find it on the banner of the Philadelphia Light Horse.

Du Simitiere either captured the idea of placing the goddess and cap, from the *Boston Gazette*, or from the Light Horse of Philadelphia.

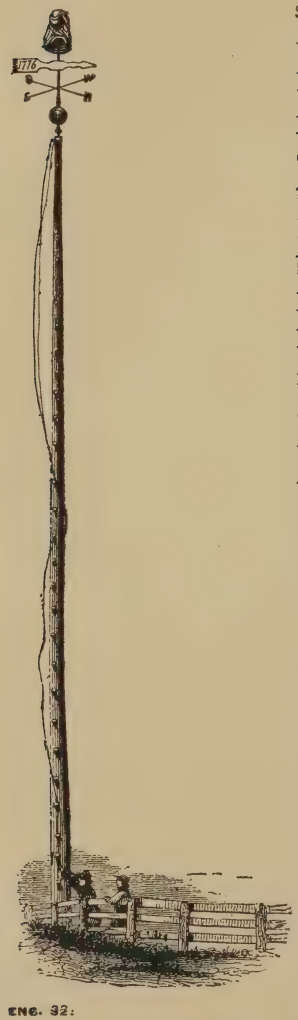
Most persons, among them the American writers historians, entertain the belief that the Liberty cap was first used in modern times as an emblem of Freedom, by the French in 1790. That this is not the case, is easily proven by the title picture on the *Boston Gazette*, and

also by the following resolution adopted by the Philadelphia Light Horse:—*Philadelphia, August 31st, 1775.* At a meeting of the Committee on Safety, held this day *Resolved*: That Owen Biddle, provide a seal for the use of the board, about the size of a dollar, with a *cap of liberty*, with this motto: —"*This is my right, and I will defend it.*"

And again as early as 1766, the Sons of Liberty of Colonial fame erected *liberty poles* and on the summit of many, was placed the favorite emblem of Freedom — the *cap of Libertas.*

Many more instances might be sighted, and it will not be out of place, but on the contrary only lend additional strength to the American laurels, to mention that nearly all flag-staffs during the Revolution had a liberty cap surmounted; and flag in particular had the cap of Liberty and sword of Justice,embroidered on a field of white silk, with these words above the emblems: "*Liberty or Death.*"

In France during the great Revolution in 1790, the Goddess sprang into sudden prominence, but this was upwards of generations after she had been conceived by the American colonist. In France her statue of plaster, since the Republic could not wait for bronze—was erected with much ceremony in one of the squares of Paris. Her image was struck upon medals; her classic form was sketched rudely upon walks, with "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity" scrolled underneath. Women per-



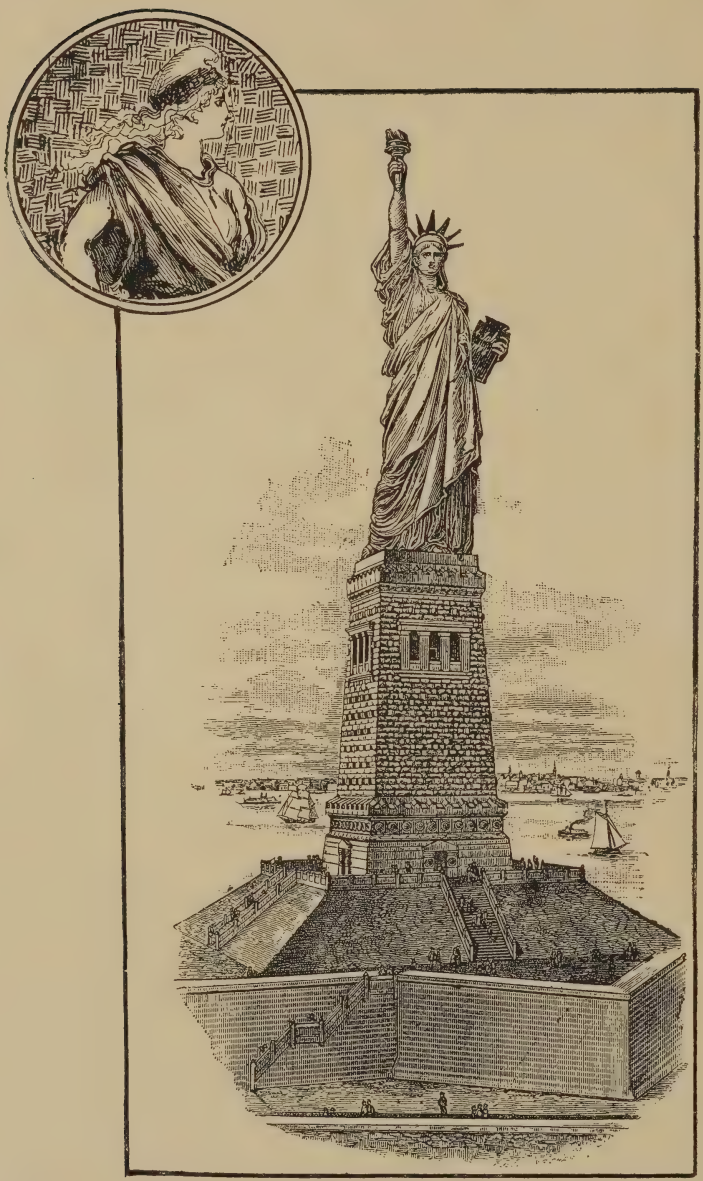
POLE, 1776.

sonated her in tableaux both upon the stage and in public; her red cap was adopted as the proper head-gear for good citizens. Her statue stood close to the guillotine and when Madame Roland, awaited to lay her head beneath the knife she said,sadly looking toward it, "O Liberty how many crimes are committed in thy name." A better fame came to the Madame, through the poets of the French Revolution. Odes, hymns and sonnets of all degrees of excellence were addressed to her. Roughit-de-Lisle,in the last verse the "Marseillaise" perhaps the most inspiring battle-hymn ever composed in Europe,—invoked her name. The "Marseillaise" was sung everywhere, in the streets, in assemblies, in battles, by men mounting to death upon the scaffold, the voices growing fewer and fewer as the living lessened and the dead increased—very few as they reached the lines :

"Holy love of Fatherland,
Guide thou our avenging hand,
Liberty loved Liberty!
Strike for those who strike for thee."

On December 20, 1793, the French installed the worship of reason for the worship of God, and M. Chaumette induced Mdle. Malliard, an actress to personify the "*Goddess* of Liberty." She was borne in a palanquin, dressed with buskins, a Phrygian cap, and a blue chlamys, over a white tunic. Being brought to Notre Dame, she was placed on the high alter, and a huge candle was placed behind her. Mdlle. Malliard lighted the candle to signify that Liberty frees the mind from the darkness and is the "light of the world." In 1885, when the French presented the Americans with a bronze statue of the Goddess of Liberty, which now stands on a high pedestal in New York harbor, they copied her after the fashion of the French Revolutionists, namely she has discarded the cap or *pilius* and in stead has a "crown of light," in her right hand a tourch, and in her left a tablet with "July 4, 1776," marked upon it—indicating the birthday of our Liberty. In the following plate is shown the present symbol of the American people; it is the ancient Phrygian cap, in red with a blue border or bottom on which are spangled thirteen bright stars.

The Sinister Supporter was intended to typify a loyal American in his uniform, with rifle in one hand and tomahawk in the other, that dress and weapons be-



ENG. 33
96 AMERICAN AND FRENCH GODDESS OF LIBRETY.

ing peculiar to America. Just what Du Simitiere thought and what his idea was as to the representative American, is unfathonable; still a moments reflection will give us a faint outline to work from. Prior to 1777 we find many Revolutionary heroes and patriots who demonstrate clearly the underlying merits of a model American. During the famous struggle for Independence, the index requisites made themselves preeminently prominent, especially: love for liberty; unselfish patriotism; unfaltering courage; intellectual tendency; charitable heart; and God fearing good citizens. The rights for which they strove also how that a true American could permit no usurper's foot to press our green sward; no tyrants army to garrison in our forts no tyrants navy to guard our harbors; no taxation without representation; that he would protect and defend our Independence, and vow our rivers shall flow free to the sea; our land shall not be trammeled by foreign powers; our blue skies shall ever remain a canopy "o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave." Du Simitiere clothed him in an unpretentious dress free from ensigns of aristocracy or regality. In his right hand he placed a tomahawk, *symbolizing indirectly* the Indian, and thus inferring our ever prepared condition for war; in his left hand a rifle emblematic of a loyal American soldier, perhaps referring to the Minute Man as a worthy model.

THE INFERIOR MOTTO, which is usually supposed to be a "war cry" of a people, is in this instance well se-

lected, namely: BELLO VEL PACE, or "*In War or Peace.*" This motto is of Latin origin, and can be traced with certainty to ancient Rome; the Goddess of war, Bellona, was worshipped by the Romans, and over an entrance leading to her temple were the words *Bello Vel Pace*? If you answered *Bello* you were permitted to enter, if *Pace,* rejected. The motto as Du Simitiere placed it is free from the interrogation point, and thus it leads us to believe that he meant that the American people were willing to battle if there was sufficient cause, and were likewise agreeable to a compromise or peace. Had he reversed the motto, so that the word *Pace*, and *Bello* would respectively come beneath the goddess of Liberty (peace). and the warrior, (war) we should be more certain of his intended meaning.

THE DESIGNATION BORDER, he used, and appropriately named, "THE GREAT SEAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

CRITIQUE.

On closely dissecting his proposed seal some seven defects appear which we must not allow to pass unnoticed.

1st. The six fields blazoned on the shield, instead of having uniformity as to emblems,or arms represented he has both, viz: England, emblem; Scotland, emblem; Ireland arms; France, arms; Germany, arms; and Holland, arms.

2nd. In representing the arms of Germany, he has

erred, since the eagle should be, "displayed" and in the case of Holland, the Lion should face the dexter side, and the field should be *azure*.

3rd. If he has designed to place these nations on the shield in their order of colonial importance they should be: England 1st, Scotland 2nd, Holland 3rd, Ireland 4th, Germany 5th, and France 6th. If with reference to population: England, France, Holland, Germany, Ireland, Scotland; but it is more probable that he arranged these emblems and arms regardless of comparison further than that Nos. 1 and 2 be Flowers, Nos, 3 and 4 objects, and 5 and 6 Animals.

4th. If he meant to represent the people of the several nations from whence America was populated, he has certainly done the Swedes, Norwegeans, Spaniards and even the Swiss an injustice, since these nationalities were both among the early as well as the worthy settlers.

5th. In attempting to devise a dress peculiar to the American people, he has utterly failed; the warrior on the sinister side of the shield is robed unsuitably; the very dress he has given is a plagarism since the same garb was worn by the Ancient Romans.

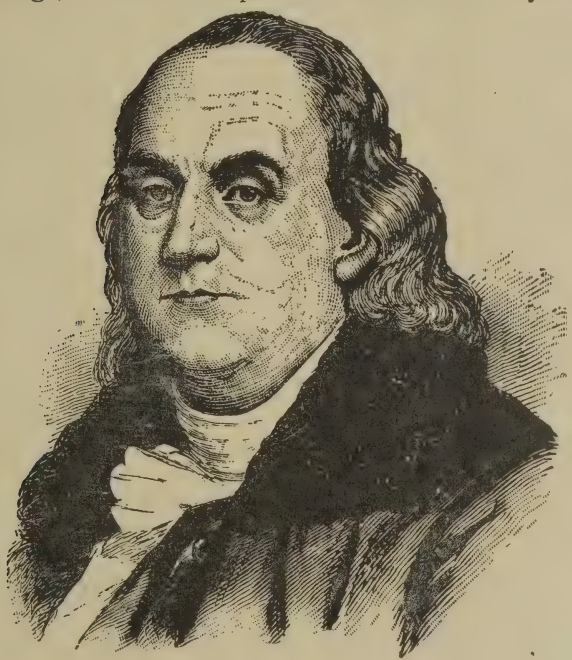
6th. The date is omitted, and an undescribed floral design is substituted.

7th. It has no reverse, and as a whole, is entirely too complicated.

BIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENT.

The eminent American sage, statesman and philosopher, Benjamin Franklin, was born in Boston, Jan. 17, 1706, and was the youngest son in a family of seventeen children; there were two daughters younger than himself. His parents came to America from Northampton, Eng., in 1682, to find greater freedom of religious opinion. His father, Josiah, was a dyer by trade but in his new home he took up the business of a tallow chandler, and by his excellent qualities became a much respected citizen of Boston. Benjamin was at first designed for the ministry, but he was after a little schooling, taken into the shop with his father. Here he remained discontentedly, two years, till he was twelve years of age. He was then bound an apprentice to his brother James a printer. When he was about fourteen, he composed a story for his brother's paper, *The New-England Courant*, and it met with universal favor; this was his first literary attempt and it proved a stimulating success. His spare time he occupied in reading such works as Plutarch, Bunyan, De Foe, and Addison; and all other floating newspaper scraps of the day. Notwithstanding the diligent labor Benjamin gave to all the cares of his brother's office, the latter little appreciated the same, and after an apprenticeship of five years he secretly left the place and sojourned to New York, where after repeated attempts to yet work he failed and

went to Philadelphia. When he arrived in the "City of Brotherly Love," he was poverty stricken, having but one silver dollar, and an extra shirt and pair of stockings, stuffed in his pocket. But he was a boy whom



ENG. 34.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

discouragement could not down, and in a few days he found employment as a printer; soon he attracted attention for his ingenuity and as well originality, and Gov. Keith of Penn., promised to start him in a business of his own, but this proved to be a false representation, and

threw the young hero into untold hardships. In 1726, with the assistance of friends, he started *The Gazette*, in which he published the famous "Poor Richard's Almanac." In 1730 he married Miss Reed and thus became the parent of a son who in after years became a devoted Tory. After twenty years of a publisher's life Franklin retired from business with a fine fortune, and now in his leisure he devoted himself to science. His discoveries in electricity are world-renowned. Franklin was an unflinching patriot; while in England he defended the cause of American Liberty with great zeal and ability. He helped draft the Declaration of Independence, and was one of the signers. And as we since have learned he was the the chairman of the First Committee to prepare devices for a Great Seal of the young Republic. He was in 1776 appointed ambassador to France, and before he left on his mission, he invested all his ready money $15.000 in the continental loan, a practical proof of his patriotism, since the re-payment was extremely improbable. He was revered for his wit, genius, dignity and charming conversation. In his 82nd year he was member of the Constitutional Convention; and when three years later he died, (April 17, 1790) 20,000 persons gathered at his grave.

CHAPTER VII.

FRANKLIN'S DESIGN.

"Tyrants with tyrants league
Corruption and intrigue
To strangle infant Liberty, conspire
Around her cradle, then
Let self-devoted men
Gather, and keep unquenched her vital fire."

—J. PIERPONT.

"MR. Chairman," said Jefferson to Franklin, "let us hear what you suggest, as being appropriate for the young nation's Seal; you, I believe, have given the subject more thought than any of us, and I am anxious to know."

"Indeed you're right when you say I have have given the matter much thought, so much so that little else has of late occupied my mind; in fact, even in my dreams I have seen faint outlines of

proposed Seals. My choice may somewhat surprise you, but I hope,—agreeably only—for in all the tomes that I have leafed none of them suggested a more fitting device than I found in the Bible;" then pulling from his deep coat pocket a neatly doubled paper, Franklin continued, "and here it is, gentlemen. I propose for a Seal, *Moses lifting his wand and deviding the Red Sea, and Pharaoh and his chariot overwhelmed with the waters.* For a motto, well befitting our present circumstances and one that would be a cherished 'war cry' for future generations I suggest; '*Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God*'." This said, Franklin handed the device to the others, anxiously waiting, as they scanned the same.

Jefferson in his usual wa y, eager to express his ap preciation said, "Doctor, I am favorably impressed with the motto and think it a happy thought on your part." then handing the sketch to Adams he added, "your design so well pleases me that I deem it unnecessary to exhibit mine, though much after the same pattern."

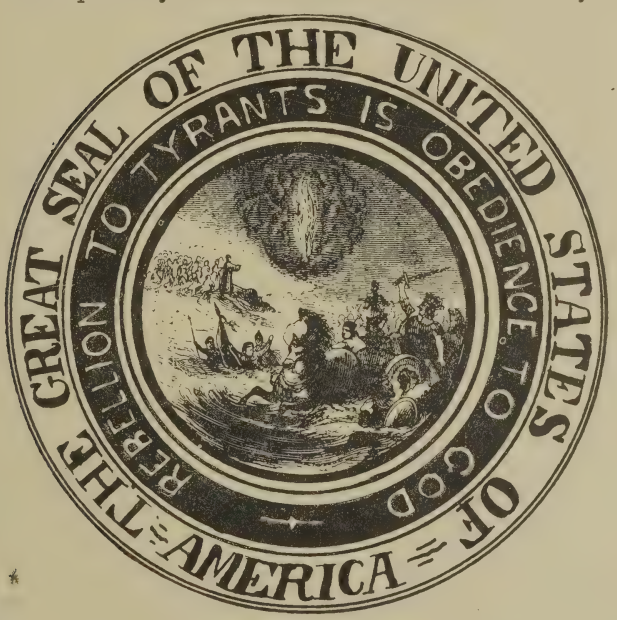
By this time Adams had thoroughly viewed the sketch and remarked: "The design is filled with an abundance of rich thought; and the experience of Moses sets us an excellent example, and the frustrated plans of Pharaoh should teach His Majesty George the III, a valuable lesson."

Now, kind readers, what could there have been of such absorbing interest in historic event of Egypt to at-

tract the busy mind of the "learned Philadelphian?" Perhaps to those only, who know the story of Hebrew bondage, is the device interesting; but believing that some few of us are ignorant of this Biblical tale we will attempt to briefly but conscientiously review.

FRANKLIN'S DESIGN.

The primary intent of Franklin was to clearly de-



ENG. 36.

BATTLE BETWEEN HEBREWS AND EGYPTIANS.

pict that Providence favored slaves and bondsman, and destroyed tyrants and usurpers; and for his illustration he chose the war between the Israelites and Egyptians.

The real history of the Israelites, Hebrews or Jews as a nation, does not begin until their departure from Egypt. Prior to this they were the slaves to the Egyptians who treated them spitefully, shamefully and disregardingly. Thus for centuries they toiled in the fertile

ENG. 37.

ISRAELITES AS SLAVES OF THE EGYPTIANS.

valley of the Nile, and in spite of their bondage prospered to such a marked degree that the family of seventy persons grew to a nation numbering three millions.

In the early history of their slavedom many privileges were granted, but later years cruelly abridged them.

At that time they were ruled by their own proper chiefs; permitted to worship a God; educate their young and follow their own prescribed manners. As time rolled on the Kings or Pharaohs of Egypt regarded the Hebrews as dangerous because of their numbers, and inflicted upon them a series of cruel prosecutions, the object of which was to reduce their power and destroy them as a nation. The King who inaugurated this policy was called Ramus who was a great warrior and a despot; he overburdened the Israelites with work and compelled them to engage under cruel task-masters in the labor of building cities. His plans were unsuccessful, for notwithstanding their heavy burdens the Hebrews increased in numbers. Enraged at this the King gave orders that all male children of the Jews should be put to death at their birth. The females were spared to furnish wives for the Egyptians; and in this way the King hoped to destroy the entire race.

Soon after this cruel edict of the Pharaoh was issued, a strange event took place, the effects of which in time led to the emancipation of the Hebrews. Jochebed, a Jewess, gave birth to a son whom, contrary to the law, she would not allow the King's officers to put to death. For three months she kept him hid; unable to conceal him longer she laid him in a basket placed him among the reeds of the Nile and resigned him to the Providence of God. The mother than left and hid among the flags of the river and requested her nine year old daughter,

Miriam, to watch her infant brother to see what might befall the little babe. About this time the King's daughter and her maidens came down to bathe in the river. As they walked along the bank they discovered the ark and its precious contents; and when the Princess saw the child, and its beauty, its tears touched her heart. Although she knew that it must be one of the Hebrew children whom her father had doomed to destruction, she determined to preserve it. Miriam, the little guardian perceiving that the Princess was moved to compassion, ran our and spoke to the King's daughter saying:—"May I go and call a Hebrew woman to nurse the child for thee?" The Princess answered in the affirmative, and away ran the little girl to call her anxious mother to nurse her *own* lost child. When the mother came, Pharaoh's daughter said:—"Take this child away and nurse it for me." The mother most willingly obeyed, and after an elapse of about three years the Princess sent for the child. She named him Moses—which means "drawn out of the water",—she had him educated as one of the royal family in consequence of which he became "learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians."

As Moses grew up he became acquainted with the remarkable history of himself and his people. In spite of his own fortunate lot and of the favor he enjoyed at court, Moses was too truly a Hebrew not to feel keenly the wrongs of his countrymen. He brooded over their sufferings and often went among his poor and afflicted

kinsmen to help, and as well cheer them.

One day he saw an Egyptian cruelly beat a Hebrew this aroused his indignation and he killed the Egyptian officer, thus delivering the poor Israelite. This deed coming to the ears of the Pharaoh, Moses was obliged to fly for his life. He journied eastward upwards 250 miles, taking refuge in the desert of Arabia. Now in the country of Midian, the travel-worn fugitive sat down at an oasic-well for refreshment and rest. While seated here he met with an adventure the result of which enabled him to render his services to the daughters of Jethro, King of the territory; by defending them from the violence of some shepherds who sought to drive the daughters away from the well where they were watering their flocks. Jethro hearing of the kindness of Moses invited him to his home and urged him to remain. Moses consented and shortly after wedded one of the King's daughters, and took charge of the flocks which he led far off to greener pastures and more abundant waters.

For forty years he followed this solitary life, forgotten probably by both the Hebrews and Egyptians and remembered only as a tradition; and himself but little-heedful now, of what he had been or of the high designs that passed through his mind in days gone bye.

One day when Moses had led his flock to a remote part he was startled by seeing a bush burning with a bright flame but, without being consumed. He ap-

proached it to ascertain the cause of this strange phenomenon but was checked by a voice from the midst of the bush, which told him that he was standing in the presence of God himself. Then God told him—" that he had seen the afflictions of the children of Israel that the new King who had just been enthroned at Egypt was cruel and unmerciful; the condition of the Hebrews were growing worse and heavier exactions upon their services were demanded. Their task-master abridged their period of rest, their work became more onerous, and never was their bondage more bitter. Their lot being too hard, their tried patience could bear it no longer. They have no leader Moses, who seems sufficiently disposed to risk the consequences of moving for the delivery of Israel. They have sincerely prayed and asked Me for assistance and I in turn request you, Moses, to go to your people, lead them from the walls of Egypt and bring them to this land of 'Milk and Honey'."

Half afraid and half delighted Moses consented though with hesitance he began his beneficent journey. When Moses arrived in Egypt, as might be expected,he was to the Jews a stranger, having been gone about a generation; nevertheless he soon summoned his kinsmen and laid before them the message of God. The people reluctantly yielded their confidence,and only after many trials and tribulations of Moses, did they finally submit themselves to the Divine will. The people agreed to execute faithfully the commands of Moses and were will-

ing to unyoke themselves from bondage and take upon themselves a new life of liberty. When all was in readiness Moses appeared before the Egyptian Pharaoh and kindly requested the King to set the Hebrews free, but the command was contemptously refused.

Mose was greatly disheartened but God cheered him by saying "that He would punish the King for the treatment and would send upon Egypt a series of terrible plagues and afflictions." God's promise was fulfilled, and Pharaoh terrified at these shocking calamities, half consented to let the Israelites depart,believing while they remained God would add new sorrows to the Egyptians.

At the command of Moses the Hebrews began their march taking with them all their valuables, and driving before them their large flocks and herds. Thus under the leadership of Moses the three million Hebrews journeyed toward the promised land. Apparently they were generaled by Moses, but in reality God was supreme commander, and in their route He guided them by a *bright cloud* by day, and a *pillar of fire* by night, the pillar and cloud alternately moving before the host thus inspiring and encouraging the Hebrews by Devine presence.

The march of such a large body was necessarily slow but after three days they reached the head of the Red Sea, or Suez Canal. In the meantime Pharaoh had recovered his courage and regretting the permission he

had given the Israelites to depart, determined to pursue and compel them to return to Egypt. He set out at the head of a large army, and by a forced march, came up with them at the Red Sea.

In a military sense the Israelitish position was critical. In front of them was the Sea; on the right a difficult Mountain range; on the left and rear the Egyptian army; thus hemmed in, there was no possible escape. In this emergency God came to their assistance and opened a passage for them across the sea,by causing the waters to recede in a miraculous manner. The Israelites at once took advantage of the dry channel and landed safely on the Arabian shore. The Egyptian army detecting the movement immediately gave pursuit; at the command of Moses the sea instantly flowed back,and destroyed the Egyptian host. Thus with the Egyptians completely engulfed, the terror stricken minds of the Hebrews were at rest; with new confidence in their God they gave voice to songs of praise, and journeyed on. Such is the story of the bondage and freedom of the Israelites.

THE MOTTO chosen by Franklin namely "*Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God*," was certainly a very befitting phrase for the Seal's field, and also highly appropriate as a "war cry" for the young Confederacy, since the young Republic was struggling against Tyranny, by Divine command.

The origin of the Motto is doubtful, though some

antiquarians claim that it originated in the time of Julius Caesar, probably Cassius in portraying to the Roman citizens the ambition and tyranny of Caesar, said:—"Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God"; this spirit stirring inspiration lent strength to the regicides and hastened the murder of Caesar (44 B. C.).

Modernly the paraphrase was received about 1645, and was then used as a "war cry" by Cromwell's party; it was intended to refer to Charles the I.

The reinvention has been attributed by some, to Oliver Cromwell, but later research would indicate that John Bradshaw, President of the court of Judges who tried Charles the I, is the person who gave voice to this expressive motto. When John Bradshaw died in 1659, the cannon which marks his resting place on a high hill Jamaica, England, has upon it the following inscription, —"*Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God.*"

The first time we find this motto prominently placed in America, it appears engraved on the Regicides Cave, West Rock, New Haven, Connecticut. Subsequently, and especially during the early parts of the Revolution the New England inns and other houses of public character had this motto pasted on windows and other conspicuous places. The expression was so common at this time that it was seen and heard everywhere, but most frequently in patriotic American quarters. Franklin no doubt having seen the maxim so universally labled deemed it worthy of his consideration, and finally chose

it to be the "war cry" of the new Confederation.

CRITIQUE.

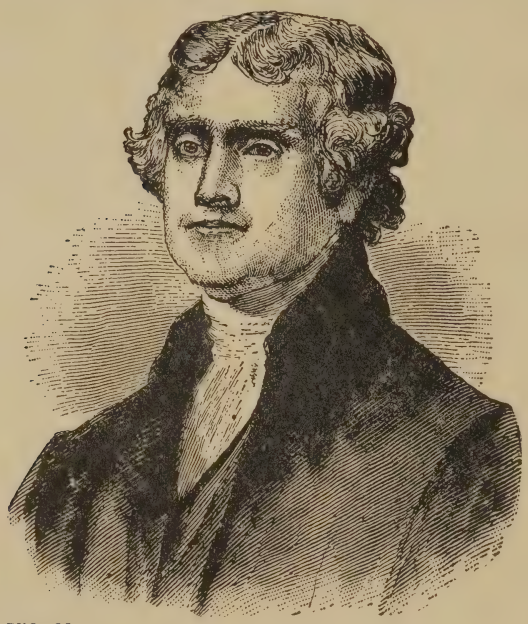
On the science of Heraldry, the committee was but slightly informed, at any rate such is the ready acknowledgement of Dr. Franklin; this being the case we must not be stringent in the scientific criticism.

In Franklin's device we notice four errors, namely: 1st, it is regardless of the fundamental principles of the science of Heraldry; 2nd, it has no date; 3rd, it is sectarian in its portrayal; and 4th, it has no reverse.

BIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENT.

The life of the man who framed the immortal Declaration of Independence is one in which the lover of our country and the admirer of her institutions can not fail to take deep interest. Thomas Jefferson was born at Shadwell, Va., in 1743, on April 2nd. He was from a child on of a serious, pensive and reflective turn of mind. From the time he was five years of age, he was kept diligently at school under the best teachers; and in 1760 he entered William and Mary College. James Parton says of him: — "Of all the public men who have figured in the history of the United States, Jefferson was incomparably the best and most variously accomplished man," Jefferson was a bold horseman, a skillful hunter, an elegant penman, a fine violinist, a brilliant talker, a superior classical scholar, and a proficient in the modern languages. On account of his rare talent he was styled "the Sage of Monticello." In 1767 he entered the practice of Law, and two years later elected to a seat in the legislature of Virginia. In 1772 he married Mrs. Martha Skelton, a very beautiful, wealthy and accomplished young widow. In 1775 he was sent to the Continental Congress, where though a silent man his abilities as a writer and reasoner soon became known. That forever to be admired document, the Declaration, was with the exception of a few words entirely his production. He was prominent among the

first Committee on the Great Seal; and chosen by said Committee to draught the Conjoint device. In 1779 he was made governor of Virginia, and it was while in this office that the British began to ravage



ENG 38.

THOMAS JEFFERSON.

his state; his wife's health, never very good, was much injured by the excitement and in the summer of 1782 she died. During the four months preceeding her death, Mr. Jefferson was her constant nurse, scarcely ever out of calling distance from her; his

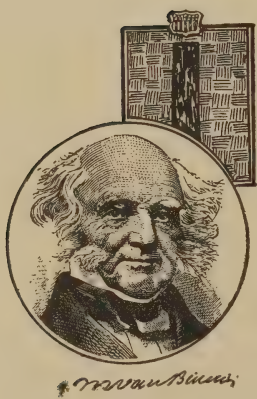
grief at her death was painful to witness, and he was to the end of his life faithful to her memory. In 1783 Mr Jefferson was elected to a seat in Congress and secured the adoption by that body, of the present system of currency. Two years later he was appointed Minister to France, to succeed Dr. Franklin. Returning to the United States in 1789 he became Secretary of State, and thus he was the first Secretary to use, by direction of the President, the Great Seal. In 1797 he was chosen Vice President under John Adams; but at the next election in 1801 Jefferson was elected President. He served two terms as Chief Magistrate of our country and an administration "among the wisest and purest the world has ever seen". On retiring from the Presidency he spent the remainder of his days at Monticello, his house open to all who called on him. The last years of his life were rendered very unhappy by debts, increased by an endorsement of $20,000 for a friend. He is the one who "Died poor in money, but rich in honor". His last words on July 4, 1826, were, "This is the Fourth day of July".

CHAPTER VIII.

JEFFERSON'S DESIGN.

"He who in the strife expires
Will add to theirs a name of fear
That Tyranny shall quake to hear,
And leave his sons a hope, a fame,
They too will rather die than shame;
For Freedom's battle once begun,
Bequeathed by bleeding sire to son
Though baffled oft is ever won."

LORD BYRON.



IT was now Mr. Jefferson's turn to present a device and he was neither reluctant nor anxious to show it, as his remarks to the committee will tell. Jefferson brought forth his sketch and said: "As I have already observed, that Dr. Franklin's and my thoughts, by some unexplainable coincidence are very similar, inasmuch that we have both sought to symbolize Liberty; and furthermore as a typical illustration of the elimination of slavery, chose the

children of Israel. In representing these King-ridden people, it is my primary desire to indicate on our Seal that the success of the Hebrews was due, not so much to their skill and genious in battle, but principally to the fact, that they were *God fearing*, and confided in the Almighty, who, though invisible, was present in the *"pillar"* and *"cloud"* which led them.

"Gentlemen", he continued, "I propose that the Seal contain an obverse and reverse side; on the former the Children of Israel, led by a *"cloud"* by day and a *"pillar of fire"* by night, on the latter Hengist and Horsa the Saxon Chiefs, from whom we claim the honor of being descended, and whose political principles and form of government we are now about to assume".

"Very strange indeed", remarked Adams, "that without previous consultation you two gentlemen should perchance to centre upon the about self same design. It would certainly go to demonstrate the historical events of ancient Egypt, have in them a most desirable example. As yet, gentlemen, you have not seen my proposition, and regardless of what I have to offer, I so very highly appreciate your selection that I am desirous of having the Seal contain at least, if not all, the striking features in this prehistoric strife for liberty".

"I am thricefold gratified", said Franklin, "firstly, that the lessons from the Hebrews pleased myself;

secondly, that friend Jefferson, unknowing of my design, portrayed the same; thirdly, that it so agreeably met the approbation of you, Mr. Adams".

In describing the design of Jefferson we have only to continue the story of the Hebrew wanderings, already begun in Franklin's device; and the next step which interests us is their sojourn and life in the wilderness.

JEFFERSON'S DESIGN.

OBVERSE SIDE:—However remarkable it may appear, that the story of Jefferson's design begins where that of Franklin's ended, such in reality is the case, and in consequence, an eventful epoch and history of a people is in brief told from beginning to end. In the study of Franklin's device we closed with the Hebrews safely landed on the eastern shore of the Red Sea, and their enemy, the Egyptians, completely overwhelmed by the hand of God. In the portrayal of Jefferson's Seal, we simply follow the God favored Israelites in their travel to the land of Canaan. After a few days of rest and recuperation the Hebrews continued their march, and were, anon in the depth of the "Wilderness of Shur". Much to the dissatisfaction of the wanderers they had journeyed three days, found no water except in a small stream, in which the water was to bitter to drink. The people than began to complain against Moses and said, that he had led

them to the wilderness to perish; and Moses prayed to the Lord to save them from pernicion, and the Lord answered his prayer and sweetened the water, and cheered the suffering army. And in order that they might have an abundance of drink He requested

ENG, 40.

JEFFERSON'S DESIGN (Obverse side).

Moses to strike a mountain rock near by, with his rod, and immediately there flowed forth fresh and palatable water.

By this time the rations and provisions of the Hebrews had given away and the poor unfortunates were again confronted by a predicament, but God immediately came to their rescue, and sent them food, first in the form of quail, and finally in the shape of Manna. This Manna fell with the dew every morning and the Lord commanded the people to go out and gather it, each man as much as his family would need for one day, but He cautioned, not to gather any for the next day, since He would send a fresh supply at each dew-time. He requested this, that they might trust in Him each day for their daily bread. Yet some of them disobeyed the Lord, and kept part of what they gathered till the next day and the Lord punished these for their lack of confidence. This supply from heaven continued every day for forty years or during the entire sojourn of the Israelites in the wilderness.

Few difficulties from now on were met with, and after having repulsed an attack of a roving and predatory Arabian tribe, Moses led his people to Mount Sinai before which they encamped. A short season of preparation was given the Israelites, and God descended upon the Mount with a sublime display of His glory, and in the hearing of the whole people, spoke the leading precepts of His law, which we call "Ten Commandments", which He engraved on two tablets of stone, as follows:

I. Thou shalt have no other Gods before me.

II. Thou shalt not make any graven image, nor bow down to it, nor worship it.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.

IV. Remember the Sabbath-day, to keep it holy.

V. Honor thy Father and thy Mother.

VI. Thou shalt not kill.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbors.

X. Thou shalt not covet anything that is thy neighbor's.

Thus from the Mount, God pronounced this divine decologue, which not only contains the fundamental points of every moral and legal code, but also contains the sublime doctrine, monotheism. The people on their part made a solemn covenant with God, in which they pledged themselves and their posterity to worship and serve Him; Moses was then called up into the Mount and remained there forty days, during which time God revealed to him the minute directions which he afterwards embodied in the code which we term the "laws of Moses". These laws contain some 365 positive, and 240 negative obligations, constituting in all the religious and civil systems of the Hebrew nation.

Unable to account for the long absence of Moses on the Mount, the people became anxious and alarmed, and at last concluded that Moses had perished in that "devouring fire" which they saw on the Mount. The Israelites then wickedly turned away from the true God, who had delivered them; they compelled one of the sub-leaders to make a golden image of a calf in imitation of the Egyptian god Apis. They bowed to the image of a Golden Calf as their Jehovah, thus breaking the covenant with God. Moses upon coming down from the Mount, much to his surprise, found his people offering sacfice to the Golden Calf, and his anger was so aroused, that he immediately prepared war upon the idolaters; the response was immediate and at his command battle began. In one day some 3000 idolaters were slain; nor was this all, the Lord, sent plagues among the idolaters for the great offence.

They remained at the Mount about one year and this long halt constituted one of the busiest portions of the life of the nation. The people had arrived at Sinai an unorganized mob, without institutions, without laws, almost ignorant of their God, and with no prescribed mode of religious worship. But during their stay at the Mount the mob was fashiond into a compact and firmly established nation, with a code of laws which has excited the admiration of all succeeding generations of mankind, and which re-

mained substantially in tact to the close of the career of the Hebrew nation. The large army was subdivided into twelve minor tribes, each having its own civil authorities, although all working from the supreme central tribunal.

Thus for forty long years the Jews journeyed in search of the Promised Land. Many pains had been endured, many battles fought with heathen people, and many unpleasantnesses outlived. After this lengthy march they were at last in sight of the goal. Moses therefore knew that the day of his death could not be distant, for he had been told by God, that it was not his privilege to lead the people, who had so long engaged his care, into their inheritance, but to behold it afar off. Moses in consequence commissioned Joshua, not as his successor, but as a military leader, divinely appointed to be the conqueror of the land of Canaan. Moses then assembled the entire nation, recited the law in their hearing, bestowed upon them prophetic blessings, foretelling their future glories, and exhorted the people to remain faithful to Jehova, as the indispensable condition of individual and national happiness. He then took an effective farewell of the nation, and at the command of God went up into Mount Nebo, from which Moses viewed the future home of the Hebrews.

After a lengthy mourning for the distinguished leader, the Israelites proceeded under the generalship

of Joshua; they soon reached the River Jordan, which was swoolen with the spring freshets, and too deep to be forded. But the people followed the *cloud* and *pillar* and miraculously again, like at the Red Sea, the water divided, and the anxious wanderers entered the Land of Promise. Here the supply of manna ceased and the people lived upon the products of the fertile country. All went well with the people here until the death of Joshua, when the Hebrews fell again a prey to idolatry and gradually the nation weakened and finally desolved, leaving the people individually to the mercies of Providence.

THE REVERSE SIDE OF SEAL.

"But hark! what foreign drums on Thanet's isle
Proclaims assistance? 'Tis the Saxon band,
By Hengist led, and Horsa; see they smile,
And greet their hosts with false insidious hand."

DIBDEN.

The history of Hengist and Horsa is one of great interest, and anyone thoroughly absorbed in the story of the Seal, can not afford to miss it. Jefferson believed that indirectly we inherited from these bold Germans, our form of government, as well, the people of whom it is composed.

The history of England begins shortly before the Christian era (55 B. C.), when Cæsar first landed and conquered an uncivilized race known as the Britons.

The Romans about the third century had effected marked changes in the Island and had established the Christian Religion, and introduced Roman Laws and Rules, but the Britons, a barbarous race, so incessant-

ENG. 41.

JEFFERSON'S DESIGN (Reverse side).

ly attacked them, that late in the fifth century they abandoned England, leaving the barbarians to destroy and demolish landmarks built by the noble Romans.

Rome that had for ages given laws to nations, and diffused slavery and oppression over the known

world, began to sink under her own magnificence. Mankind, as by general consent, rose up to vindicate their natural freedom; almost every nation asserted that independence, even the uncivilized Briton of ancient England. The Britons, now left to themselves, considered their new liberties as their greatest calamity; the Picts and Scotts uniting began to look upon Briton as their own, and at once began to ravage with impunity the whole country, while the Britons sought precarious shelter in the woods and mountains.

It was in this deplorable and enfeebled state that the Britons had recourse to the Saxons, a brave people, who for their strength and valor, were formidable to all nations around them, and supposed at that time to be more than a match for the *gods* themselves. They were a people restless and bold, who cherished war for justice, and were in consequence taught to consider victory as a doubtful advantage, but courage as a secure and certain good. Such were the people the Britons asked assistance from, and it was an agreeable circumstance to the ambitious Germans to be invited into a country upon which they, for ages before had been forming designs.

In consequence of the Briton's King, Vortigern's solemn invitation, the Germans arrived and landed at Thanet's Isle with 1500 men under the command of the two brotners Hengist and Horsa. The broth-

ers did not long remain inactive, but immediately joined the forces of the Britons; finding however that the Picts and Scotts were too numerous, Hengist sent word to his German countrymen for re-enforcement, whereupon about 1300 braves responded; with this united force the Germans and Britons fell upon the Northern invaders, defeated them with such slaughter as effectually put a stop to their incursions.

The Britons, not having fully appreciated the kindness of the German Chiefs, the latter began to direct war against the Britons. Hengist and his brother sent away to their native land, and in a short time an army of 5000 men landed on the English coast. With this re-enforcement came Lady Rowena, the beautiful daughter of Hengist; the Briton's King Vortigern was artfully inveigled into a passion for the charming dame, and in order to marry her, was induced to settle the fertile province of Kent. The King reluctantly yielded to this proffer, and the Germans at once united forces with the Picts and Scotts, whom they but shortly before had battled with, and repelled after a memorable struggle against the Britons, made themselves masters of Kent; a portion of England from whence the Saxons could never be removed.

The Britons, displeased with the deed of their King Vortigern, deposed of him and marched against

the Germans, under the leadership of Vortimer, son of their former King, Vortigern.

MEDITERRANEAN SEA
SALT SEA
Arabian Desert
RED SEA
RIVER NILE
Pyramids
Jerusalem
Wilderness of Shur
Bitter Lakes
Journey of Israelites
Gulf of Akabah
Journey of Israelites
Journey of Israelites
Journey of Israelites

gist, immediately took posession of Kent, and nearly the entire Southern half of England. He established his court at Canterbury, and the laws which he enforced were in good taste with governments of that early period. He reigned about 30 years, and laid the foundation of that great England which has occupied so large a space in the history of the world.

The noble white horse, upon which brave Hengist rode through fierce battles for triumphs, was thought of so highly by the people of Kent, that after the death of Hengist they adopted his horse as the symbol of their country; the present Seal of Kent contains the design of the horse, and at one time even the royal arms of England had it prominently blazooned.

CRITIQUE.

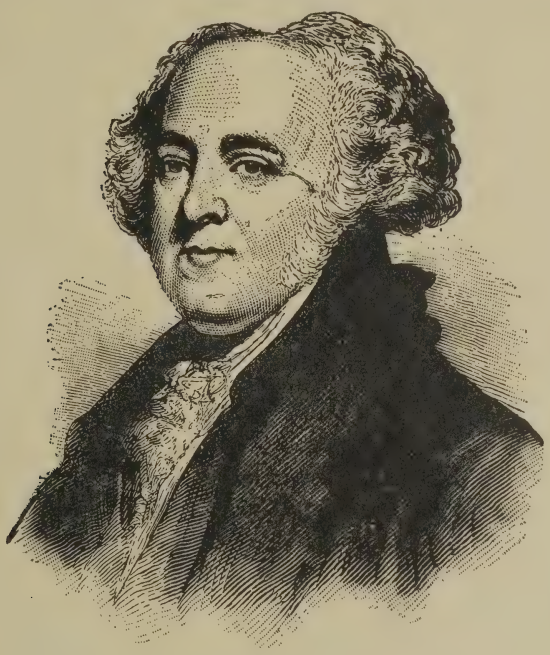
Among the most important suggestive corrections, are the following four: — 1st, Jefferson has designed that the Seals should consist of an Obverse and Reverse side;*) 2d. It is not patterned after laws of Heraldry; 3d. It contains no national phrase or "war-cry"; and 4th. It is sectarian on the obverse, and nationalistic on the reverse side.

*) Obverse and reverse sides of Seals to be considered later.

BIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENT.

THE "Plump Bostonian" was born at Quincy, Mass., October 1735. He was fitted for college in his native town and graduated at Harvard College in the class of 1755, and was admitted to the bar three years later. In 1764 he was married to Miss Abigail Smith, a lady of unusual fine endowments and education; one year later he entered upon a distinguished political career. He was an active and influential member of the first and second Continental Congress, and by his eloquence and energy did more perhaps, than any other man to crystalize the American sentiment in favor of Independence. Jefferson drew up the immortal "Declaration", but it was Adams who persuaded Congress to adopt it. He was its most distinguished signer; Jefferson himself said, that "Mr. Adams was the pillar of its support; its ablest advocate and defender". On the afternoon of the adoption of the Declaration he was appointed second on the committee on Great Seal. The appointment of Washington to the chief command of the army was the suggestion of Adams. During the first two years of the war, his labors were incessant and overwhelming. Besides being Chairman of the Board of War and of Appeals, he was at the head of twenty-five

important Congressional Committees. As Commissioner to France and Holland, and as Minister Plenipotentiary to negotiate a treaty with Great



ENG. 43.

JOHN ADAMS.

Britian, the diplomacy and practical wisdom of John Adams accomplished great results. With Jay and Franklin he framed the preliminary treaty of Versailles. After the declaration of peace, Adams was

appointed Minister to the English Court, which position he filled until 1788. On his return to America the same year he was elected Vice President, and on the retirement of Washington in 1797, Adams was elected second President of the United States. In this capacity he directed the use of the Great Seal, which twenty years previous he helped devise. In 1801, when his term of four years in office had expired, his adversary, Thomas Jefferson, was elected by a majority of one vote. Adams now retired to his estate at Quincy, where he occupied himself with agricultural pursuits. At the age of ninety, on the 4th of July 1826, he died. On his dying couch some one inquired, "Do you know what day it is"? "Oh yes!" replied he, "It is the fourth day of July. God bless it! God bless you all! It is a great and glorious day! Thomas Jefferson", he murmured, "still survives." These were his last words, but he was mistaken, for Jefferson had died some moments before.

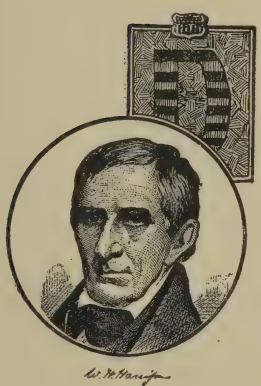
The nation could but say:—How fitting that they (Jefferson and Adams) who had done so much to secure our national independence, should depart on the day commemorating the event; and what an inspiration for the rising generations, is the last statement of the noble Adams: — "It is the glorious Fourth of July, God bless it!"

CHAPTER IX.

ADAMS' DESIGN.

"Our mountains are crowned with imperial oak!
Whose roots, like our liberties, ages have nourished;
But long e'er our country submits to the yoke,
Not a tree shall be left on the field where it flourished;
Should invasion impend,
Every grove would descend
From the hill-tops it shaded, our shores to defend;
For ne'er shall the sons of Columbia be slaves,
While the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls its waves!"

ROBERT TREAT PAINE.



U Simitiere, who had all this time patiently and attentively listened to the Committee, seemed over-anxious to hear what Mr. Adams would propose. He was intimately acquainted with the great Bostonian, and was thoroughly interested in all he said or did. The town clock had just struck nine, and Mr. Franklin called for Mr. Adams' device. At first Mr. Adams

declined, giving as an excuse, the lateness of the day, and unreadyness to report. But the Committee and Du Simitiere earnestly requested it, and he complied.

"I would recommend as an appropriate device for a Seal", began Mr. Adams as he opened a small book, "The choice of Hercules, as engraved by Gribelin in this edition of Lord Shaftesbury, you notice the hero resting on a club, Virtue pointing to her rugged mountain on one hand, and persuading to ascend; and Vice glancing at her flowery paths of pleasure, wantonly reclining on the ground, displaying the charms both of her eloquence and person, to seduce him into vice".

"A very worthy proposal, Mr. Adams", commented Franklin, "and I must add, that unless our new nation is guided by virtue, and shuns the very sight of vice, it were better our fight for sovereignty be discouraged".

"I certainly can not see wherein you need to hesitate to present your idea", said Jefferson to the gentleman from New England, "for I sincerely believe that a majority of the House will be more favorably impressed with your model than with ours, simply because the design is comprehensive and as well expressive".

"Well! gentlemen", remarked the tired looking chairman, "we have heard the several proposals, what are we prepared to decide and ready to agree"?

"Mr. Chairman", said Adams, "I know that Mr. Jefferson will think it unjust and uncalled for, but I suggest, since it is near supper time, and we are exhausted from the intense heat, that the devices to-day discussed be handed to Mr. Jefferson, who, I am confident, can judiciously combine our ideas in a compact description of a proper device for a Great Seal".

Mr. Franklin then corroborated what Adams said, and he as chairman, referred the matter to Mr. Jefferson, who much to his displeasure accepted the task; but, he remarked, as they left the room to go to the stalls below, "I assure you gentlemen, I shall devote much time to this matter, and I trust you both will see that I am freed from further committee work. And I would request", he continued, "should you gentlemen discover material that would contain items of interest to me in this work of synthetising our ideas, I hope you will impart them to me, thus lessening my labors and perhaps, adding a token to the Seal." After a few words at the coffee rooms as to when the report would be ready for Congress, the members of the committee bade one another good-night, and hastily walked to their respective places of abode.

ADAMS' DESIGN.

John Adams was a great reader and scarcely was there an article of importance on any subject, which he had not read. The works of great artists he made

an especial study of, and when in the early part of the eighteenth century the writings of Lord Shaftesbury were published, Mr. Adams invested and purchased the entire works. They were edited in volumes and called "Characteristics of Men, Manners, Opinions and Times", by Anthony Ashley Cooper (Lord Shaftesbury). One of the most conspicious engravings of the work and one which contains perhaps the grandest moral, is the Judgment or Choice of Hercules. Shaftesbury very ably treated the subject, and no doubt, when Adams was in search of a device for an ideal, he was favorably impressed with this historic picture.

The design so definitely defines the meaning of the situation, that it is hardly necessary to attempt further analysis or explanation. In short, he intended the figure to represent in a national sense, a most important part.

HERCULES, as the central figure, was to symbolize the young nation; indicating strength, valor, perseverance, and immortality.

THE GODDESS OF PLEASURE, on the sinister side, was to depict all forms of corruption, and would thoroughly represent a lack of dignity and respect, or the seven vices — pride, wrath, envy, lust, gluttony, avarice and sloth.

THE GODDESS OF VIRTUE, on the dexter side, was to be the guide of the young government and as

such would enforce her "seven cardinal excellences", namely, 1st: Faith; 2d: Hope; 3d: Charity; 4th: Prudence; 5th: Justice; 6th: Fortitude, and 7th: Temperance.

The history of this moral Goddess dates back to time immemorial. She was worshiped as early as 1800 B. C., and the Phœnicians, who first idolized her, named her Astarte, or Star, she symbolized the moon, and represented chastity; to serve her, was to subdue all passions and lead a virtuous life. At first she was represented by a white conical stone; afterwards with the head of a cow with horns; and ultimately, as a human being with a thunderbolt in one hand and a scepter in the other. She was worshiped in groves and temples, and human sacrifice was offered, the male children giving her most delight. The dove, the crab, and the lion among the animals, and the pomegranate among fruits, were sacred to Astarte. In later days she became the favorite Goddess of the Greeks, Hebrews and Corinthians, and was known universally as the *"queen of heaven"*. Ancient Phœnician coins contain figures of Astarte, the Goddess of Virtue.

"With these in troop
Came Astareth, whom the Phœnicians called
Astarte qneen of the heaven, with crescent horns;
To whose bright image nightly by the moon
Sidonian virgins paid their vows and songs".

MILTON P. L.

The story of the Judgment of Hercules is of some interest and worthy of consideration. According to the great historian Xenophon, when Hercules was a young man, he was by the order of Jupiter compelled to serve Eurystheus, King of Argus, for twelve years, after which he was to become immortal. The King, who feared the power of Hercules, imposed upon him thirteen labors of great difficulty and danger.

The gods who favored the mighty hero armed him for these labors. Mercury gave him a sword; Apollo gave him a bow; Vulcan a golden breastplate; Neptune a span of horses, and Minerva a robe. He himself cut down in the Nemean forest a giant tree which served him as a club.

The 13 labors imposed were as follows:—(1) To slay the Nemean lion; (2) To kill the Lernaen hydra; (3) To catch and hold the Arcadian stag; (4) To destroy the Erymanthian boar; (5) To cleanse the Augean stables; (6) To destroy the cannibal birds of the Lake Stymphalus; (7) To capture the Cretan bull; (8) To capture the horse of Diomedes the Thracian; (9) To take the girdle of the Amazonian Omen; (10) To capture the oxen of the monster Geryon; (11) To get possession of the Apples of the Hesperides; (12) To bring up from the infernal regions the three-headed dog Cerberus; and (13) To resist the temptation of the goddess of Vice and Pleasure.

And it was sore grief to Hercules, that all his life long he must toil for Eurystheus, while others were full of joy and pleasure, and feasted at tables laden with delicious dishes.

And so it came to pass, that one day he retired into a desert, where the silence and solitude of the place very much favored his meditations. As he was musing on his present unfortunate condition, and very much perplexed in himself on the state of life he should choose, he suddenly lifted up his eyes, and saw two women coming towards him, each from a different direction and road.

One of the women had a very noble air and graceful deportment; her beauty was natural and easy, her person clean and unspotted; her eyes cast down toward the ground with an agreeable reverse; her motion and behavior full of modesty; and her raiment as white as the driven snow.

The other had a great deal of health and floridness in her countenance, which she had helped with artificial white and red; and she endeavored to appear more graceful than ordinary in her mien, by a mixture of affection in all her gestures. She had a wonderful confidence and assurance in her looks, and all the variety of colors in her dress, she thought most proper to show her complexion to advantage. She cast her eyes upon herself, then turned them on the modest goddess and the bashful Hercules, to see how

they liked her, and often looked on the figure she made in her own shadow. Upon her approach to Hercules, she stepped before the other lady, who came forward with a regularly composed carriage, and running up to Hercules, accosted him after the following manner:—

"My dear Hercules, I find that you are very much devided in your thoughts upon the way of life, that you ought to choose; be my friend and follow me; I will lead you into possession of pleasure and out of the reach of pain, and remove you from all toil and disquietude of business; the affairs of either war or peace shall never concern or have power to disturb you. Your whole employment shall be to make your life easy, and to entertain every sense with its proper gratification Sumptuous tables, beds of roses, clouds of perfume, concerts of music, crowds of beauties, are in readiness to receive you. Come with me into this region of delight, this world of pleasure, and bid farewell forever to care, pain and toil.

"Thou shalt not want for sparkling wine and soft robes, and pleasant couches; thou shalt not lack the delights of love, for these bright eyed maidens, whom thou shalt meet, shall look gently upon thy grand shape, and their soft voices shall lull thee to sleep in the quiet evening hour, when the poetic stars come out in the enchanting twilight".

Hercules, hearing the lady talk after this manner,

ENG. 45.

ADAMS' DESIGN.

desired to know her name, to which she answered, "My friends, and those who are well acquainted with me, call me 'Happiness', but my enemies, and those

who would injure my reputation, have given me the name of 'Pleasure'".

By this time the other lady was come up, and addressed herself to the young hero in a very different manner.

"Hercules", said she, "I offer myself to you, because I know you are descended from the *gods*, and give proof of that descent by your love of *virtue*, and application to the studies proper for your age. This makes me hope, that you will gain, both for yourself and me, an immortal reputation. But before I invite you into my society and friendship, I will be open and sincere with you, and must put down as an established truth, that there is nothing truly valuable, which can be purchased without pains and labor. The gods have set a price upon every real and noble pleasure. If you would gain the favor of Deity, you must be at the pains of worshiping him; if you would be honored by your country, you must take care to serve it; in short, if you would be eminent in war or peace, you must become master of all the qualifications that make you so. These are the only terms and conditions, upon which I can promise you happiness".

The Goddess of Pleasure here broke in upon her discourse. "You see", she said, "Hercules, by her own confession, the way to her pleasure is long and difficult, whereas, that which I propose, is short and easy; her path is long and weary, but my road is

broad and leads thee quickly to the desired goal".

"Alas", said the other lady, whose visage glowed with scorn and pity, "what are the pleasures you propose? To eat, before you are hungry; drink, before you are thirsty; sleep, before you are tired; to gratify appetites, before they are raised; and cherish such appetites as nature never planted. You never hear the most delicious music, which is the praise of yourself; or saw the most beautiful object, which is the work of your own hands. Your votaries pass away their youth in a dream of mistaken pleasure; while they are hoarding up anguish, torment, and remorse of old age. "Or in other words", continued the Goddess of Virtue, "thy lusts are hampered; thy taste is dull; thou quoffest the rich wine before thou art thirsty and fillest thyself with dainties, ere thou art wanting. Thou art numbered amongst those, whom the gods have cast out of heaven, and all good and great men scorn thee. The sweetest of all sounds, when a man's *heart* praises; the sweetest of all sights, when a man looks on his *good deeds*,—thou hast never seen. They who bow down to thee are weak and feeble in youth, and wretched and loathsome in old age. As for me", still continued the Goddess of Virtue: "I am the friend of the gods in heaven, and the good men on earth; an agreeable companion of the artisan; and without me, *nothing* good or pure can be accomplished. I am the household

guardian to the fathers of families; a patron or protector of servants; an associate in all true and generous friendship. In peace and in war, in health and in sickness, I am the aid of all who seek me, and my help never fails. My children know the purest of all pleasures, when the hour of rest comes, and the toils of the day are done. In youth they are strong and they are quick with health. The banquets of my booths are never costly, but always delicious; for none eat or drink of them, who are not invited by hunger or thirst. My young men have the pleasure of hearing themselves praised by those who are in years, and those who are in years, of being honored by those who are young. In a word, my followers are favored by the gods, beloved by their acquaintance, esteemed by their country, and after the close of their labors, honored by all posterity. Love me therefore, Hercules", she pleaded, "and obey my words, and thou shalt dwell with me, when thy toil is successfully ended, in the home of the undying gods".

ENG. 46.
GODDESS.

Then Hercules bowed down his head and vowed he would follow her counsel; and when the two maidens passed away from his sight, he went forth with good courage to his labors and sufferings. In many

a land he toiled to do the will of a terse task-master Eurysthesus. Good deeds he did for the sons of men, but he had no direct profit, save the love of the gentle Goddess, who lead him into a virtuous life and ultimately into the kingdom of the immortal gods.

CRITIQUE.

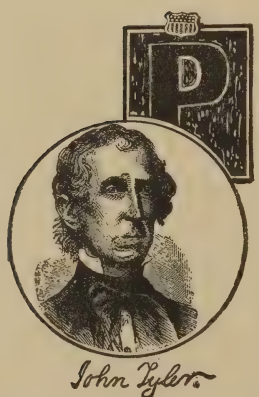
As a proposition for a seal of a modern nation, such as the United States is, the design of Adams is highly appreciated as he has omitted all the attributes of seals of heraldic times. There are but two criticisms to be advanced, and these, trifling ones. 1st: It does not contain any of the many American emblems and does not present any qualities distinguishing it as purely American. 2d: The design has no motto or "war-cry", and is an entire mythological portrayal

CHAPTER X.

JEFFERSON'S CONJOINT DESIGN.

"Woe to the English soldiery
That little dread us near!
On them shall light at mid-night
A strange and sudden fear;
When, waking to their tents, on fire
They grasp their arms in vain,
And they who stand to face us
Are beat to earth again.
And they who fly in terror deem
A mighty host behind,
And hear the tramp of thousands
Upon the hollow wind".

W. C. BRYANT.



PURSUANT with the request of Adams and Franklin, Mr. Jefferson took home with him the several proposed devices and studiously began compiling the Conjoint Design, by taking what he considered, the meritious features of each proposition and connecting them into one solid structure. He considered the duty a pleasant one, and felt flat-

tered, that he, the youngest member, should be entrusted with the most important part of the work. He was tendered a similar responsibility and honor by the Committee that prepared the Declaration of Independence and the Committee on the Seal, knowing with what ability he treated the great doc-

ENG. 48.

JEFFERSON'S CONJOINT DESIGN.

ument, felt safe in turning into the hands of Jefferson the devising of the nation's arms.

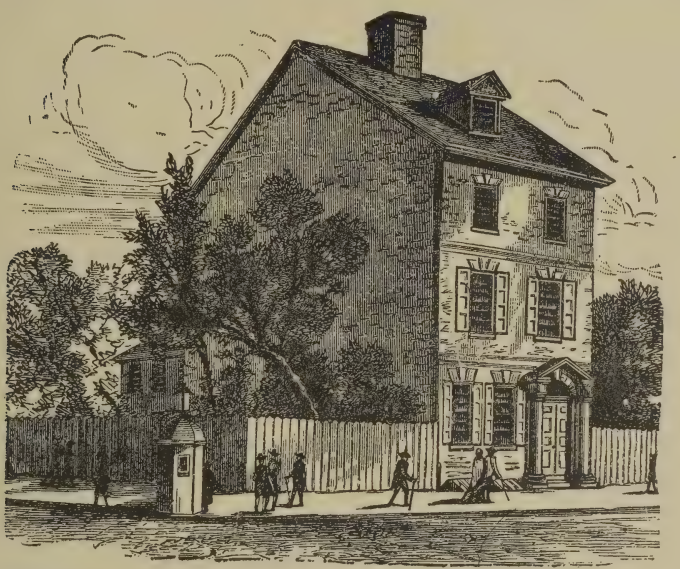
Busy young Jefferson crowded his mind with numerous conceptions, he consulted his intimate friends and occasionally he would meet and converse with Adams and Franklin, who took deep interest in forwarding to him novel and appropriate ideas. One

man in particular, in whom Jefferson confided, was Robert Morris, a man of original ideas, well read, and the greatest benefactor of the age; he called upon Jefferson often and did all he could to assist, and as well encourage the young Virginian in all he undertook. Jefferson was living at this time in a new brick house, out in the fields of Philadelphia, near what is now corner Market and Seventh streets, a quarter of a mile from Independence Hall.

Jefferson thoroughly reviewed the sketches, and in dissecting the design of Du Simitiere, he found three worthy features, and in fact nearly completely accepted the Frenchman's design. Jefferson made no corrections in what he borrowed from "Du", as the engraving will show. Jefferson approved three devices, namely, 1st: The Shield; 2d: Eye of Providence; 3d: Goddess of Liberty.

To these, for the obverse side of the Conjoint Design, he added four new ideas, namely, 1st: As a sinister supporter, he chose to have the Goddess of Justice, in place of the Loyal American, or Warrior; 2d: The motto, "*E Pluribus Unum*", instead of "*Bello Vel Pace*"; 3d: The adding of thirteen shields, representing the colonies; and 4th: The Chain of Union, which connected the State Shields. Now let us determine the significance and origin of these four additional emblems.

THE FIRST, the *Goddess of Justice,* as her name implies, he intended should indicate, that the new government proclaimed to the nations of the world, that despotism was despised by her, but on the contrary, that impartiality, rectitude, equality and justice



ENG. 49.

HOUSE WHERE JEFFERSON DESIGNED.

was the cherished mission of the sinister supporter of the Shield. The colonies had for years suffered unjust treatment from Mother England; her subjects, in establishing a new nation, desired to portray forcibly, that the citizens of the new government have "repre-

sentation, if they have taxation", that all the laws of the land would be legislated by just voice and that all men shall here be free and equal, while under the faithful protection of the Goddess of Justice.

The story of the gracious goddess, who was to represent these grand sentiments, is one that invites us to the early and unwritten history of man. Ever since the creation of our fore-fathers, we find humanity seeking, finding, battling for their rights and demanding in the name of *idols* and *gods*, their dues and justice. Early in the Grecian records we find, that among their mythological gods was one named Nemesis. She was the daughter of Night, and the original personification of moral feelings, of right and wrong or *Justice*. The loftiest conception the ancient Greeks had of Nemesis, was, that to her was entrusted the execution of the degrees of a strict retributive Providence, the awful and mysterious avenger. She was usually represented in works of art as a virgin, sometimes standing in a thoughtful attitude, holding in her right hand a sword, and in her belt a branch of an ash. She had three servants or Furies, Tisephone, Electo, and Megaera, these furies were represented with snakes, which instead of hair, enveloped their heads, bloody eyes, their faces black and full of hatefulness, and they bore torches and daggers in their fleshless hands. At her command they would come forth from Tartarus, their hiding place, follow the

condemned person or violator from place to place, allowing no peace or rest, but relentlessly pursuing the offender till the goddess deemed that justice had been done, when she would call the Furies home to their cave.

ENG. 50.
GODDESS.

Later the Greeks rejected the worship of Nemesis and in her stead substituted Themesis, daughter of Uranus Gaea (Heaven and Earth), and wife of the famous god Jupiter, and thus the mother of the Three Fates, the Seasons, Peace, Order, and all deities beneficial to man-kind. She, it is believed, was the first goddess to whom were erected temples, and also first to receive devoted worship. Her oracle was famous in Athens in the age of Demetrius (Hundreds of years B. C.). She dwelt in Olympus and convened the assembly of the gods. She was represented generally, as dressed in a loose toga, on her head a metal helmet, in her right hand a pair of scales and in the other a cornucopia, or horn of plenty, and while she would punish the evil and unjust, she would also reward the good and law abiding.

In later times, when the Romans accepted the Grecian mythology, they retained the divinities of

the gods, but changed their names to the Latinized forms.

The goddess of Justice of ancient Greece, Nemesis, was adopted by the Romans and by them known as Nemesis; all the former powers and virtues attributed to her by the Greeks, were retained, and several extra qualities and principles of character added. Thus the Romans not only claimed, that Nemesis and her three Furies, punished and rewarded the living, but they also held, that she too punished and rewarded the dead; hence any person speaking evil or wrongfully of any dead, was punished for it by this just goddess, and in turn, if one spoke respectfully or correct tributes of the dead, Nemesis would reward the person for the justice done. She, they also supposed, defended and preserved the relics of the dead and protected their character from insults. She was thought of so highly by the Romans, that early in their national existence they had placed in the Capitol a large and beautiful statue of Nemesis.

ENG. 51.
UNION DEVICE.
1776.

But as time rolled on it seems the Romans like the Greeks, thought Nemesis to severe, and thus in her capacity as the goddess of Justice, was placed the

second goddess of Justice of the Greeks, *Themesus*, the wife of Jupiter. This goddess served the Romans for many years, but when the goddess gave birth to Amonia, Dice and Irene, the children were respectively consecrated as the goddesses, Goodrule, Justice, and Peace. The new goddess of Justice, Dice, had all the many meritorious characteristics of her mother, but she was less powerful and her disposition more mild and less avengeful. The Romans were so highly pleased with the goddess that one of the twelve signs of the Zodiac were named in honor of her, Libra (Balance, Scales or Justice), and up to this modern day the feminine form of Dice is a symbol of September or that portion of the Zodiac in which the earth in this month revolves.

ENG. 52.

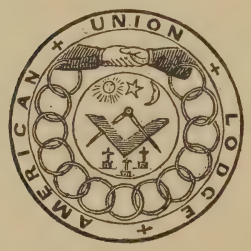
DEVICE IN CURRENCY.
1775.

This goddess was worshiped by the ancient Saxons, Gauls, and finally by the old Britons; and in modern times poets and sculptors have omitted the

horn of plenty and substituted the sword; meaning, that she will enforce the just laws and bring justice.

American imagination has tied a bandage about her head, thus closing her sight, and indicating non-recognizance. Such we find to be the evolution of our present great goddess, and her biography teaches us many memorable examples; though in ancient times her person and presence was feared, we as Americans have learned to cherish and love her.

THE SECOND, "*E Pluribus Unum*," we will trace in the study of the present Great Seal of the United States.



ENG. 53
MASONIC SEAL.
1775.

THE THIRD AND FOURTH, the Thirteen Shields and Chain of Union, Jefferson intended to depict, that the United States was composed of thirteen componant smaller provinces or states, and that the Great Seal, which represented the nation, was formed by thirteen constituent State Seals or Shields. He received this most happy idea from a colonial flag, which bore a union of thirteen mailed hands, issuing from the clouds, and grasping as many links of an endless chain; meaning, "In union there is strength." This appropriate device was on a Newburyport flag of 1776; Jefferson in place of the mailed hands placed the thirteen shields.

The committee that designed this colonial flag borrowed the idea from a Continental One-sixth Dollar Bill, issued in November 1775; on the reverse side of the bill is a chain of union, composed of thirteen links, on each of which is the name of a colony, beginning with New Hampshire and ending with Georgia, and in the centre were the words "We Are One", but the real origin of the Chain of Union comes from the mind of B. Franklin; early in 1775 he devised it for the seal of the American Union Masonic Lodge, of which he was a member. The links of the chain were united by the grasping hands, and within the circle several important Masonic emblems.

THE REVERSE side of Jefferson's Conjoint Design consisted of the obverse side of Franklin's device, namely, Pharaoh and the Israelites, and as a war-cry, *"Rebellion to Tyrants, is Obedience to God"*.

Thus we notice in the new design that he borrowed three emblems from Du Simitiere, two from Franklin, adding four additional himself and approving little of his own first device, and rejecting completely the proposition of Adams.

CRITIQUE.

The Conjoint Design is one that is worthy of admiration and a critique is hard to give. The obverse is perfect; while to the reverse the criticism given on Franklin's is applicable.

BIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENT.

JAMES LOVELL.

THIS revolutionary patriot was born in the city of Boston in the year 1737. He early manifested the spirit of a true American, and oft while a mere lad found delight in hectoring those who were of an aristocratic disposition, and later in life clearly demonstrated his dislike for royalty. The commonwealth of Massachusetts, which was so prominent in the steps for national independence, was ever cautious as to representatives chosen or appointed to delegate in congress; yet so highly did the sons of the Bay State value James Lovell, that in December 1776 they willed, that he should represent them in the Continental Congress, in which body he remained a cherished member. His patriotism in Congress was not of the dormant kind and his fellow-members recognized in him an earnest and fearless American, of abilities worthy of regard; in consequence he was appointed chairman of the committee of Foreign Affairs, an office soliciting careful attention and undoubted ability. This committee conducted all foreign correspondence, and controlled a large influence in State matters. Some time in 1781 his term as

ENG. 54.

LOVELL AND HOUSTOUN IN COMMITTEE.

delegate from Massachusetts closed and he returned to his native state, active ever, as a patriot. In May 1782 he was again returned to the Continental, and anon was on important committees. He lived to see

the Great Seal used, and did much toward establishing its authority. Mr. Lovell died at the age of 77 (1814).

JOHN HOUSTOUN.

This member of the Seal Committee was born some time in 1734. Little is known of his early training, but he was a man of intelligence and honesty. When in 1775 Georgia threw off the yoke of British rule, John Houstoun was elected to the First Continental Congress to represent the province of Georgia. While in Congress he was appointed a member of the Naval Committee, thus having as co-workers: Hancock, Hopkins, Morris, and Lee. In 1778 he retired from Congress, having been elected governor of Georgia, succeeding J. A. Trueitlen, the first governor of the province under the new colonial constitution. After serving his term as governor he was again elected to Congress, and while in this delegation he was appointed a member of the Great Seal Committee.

J. SCOTT.

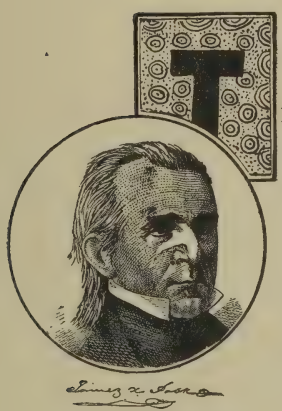
According to the Journal of the Continental Congress we learn, that a certain Mr. Scott of Virginia was appointed on Seal Committee; the records of the province and state of Virginia disclaim, or rather do not mention having delegated any one by that name to Congress. The only gentleman named Scott, who served in Congress at this date (1780), is J. M. Scott of New York. This confliction existing, nothing can be definitely stated.

CHAPTER XI.

LOVELL'S DESIGN.

"I see, I see!
Freedom's established reign; cities and men,
Numerous as sands upon the ocean shore,
And empires rising where the sun descends!
The Ohio soon shall glide by many a town
Of note; and where the Mississippi's stream,
By forests shaded, now runs sweeping on,
Nations shall grow, and states not less in fame
Than Greece and Rome of old!"

PHIL. FRENEAU (1775).



THUS far we have learned how regardlessly the Continental Congress treated the report of the Committee on the Great Seal; we since have closely studied the significance of these grand propositions and found that they contained noble and patriotic devices.

The committe, as might well be expected, was disagreeably surprised, to see with what reluctance

their cherished designs were appreciated, and highly discouraged to learn of their sad fate. Jefferson in particular, manifested no little displeasure at the action of the Congress, and when he saw, that the Continentals would not accept the design, he chose to show his love for the same, by adopting on his own private seal a patriotic fragment of the proposed Great Seal; he thoroughly admired the entire suggestion, but in particular the spirit-stirring phrase of Franklin: "Rebellion to Tyrants, is Obedience to God", which he had inscribed on his personal seal. Franklin and Adams were no less despondent and believed that national independence could never be gained with such luke-warm men in the Continental Congress. In order that the committee should not feel remorse, Congress attempted to heal the breach by appointing Franklin and Jefferson as commissioners to Europe, to assist Silas Deane in negotiating friendly relations and reliances with some of the powerful nations across the sea. Franklin accepted the honorable position, but Jefferson declined, claiming, he could be a more important factor in the legislature of Virginia; and so in his stead was appointed Arthur Lee. Adams

ENG. 56.

JEFFERSON'S PRIVATE SEAL.

remained in Congress; he would have been appointed to accompany Franklin, but being Secretary of the War Department, a position of great labor and responsibility, Congress could not spare him.

The most gloomy part of the war of Independence was in early 1777, since it brought with it many discouraging features; the British at New York having had a glorious victory over the Americans at Long Island, now looked to capture Philadelphia; Washington with his enfeebled, hopeless crew, could not check the march; Congress was still in session at the capitol and in great fear, fled to Baltimore. The continental soldiers were greatly disheartened on account of the continental paper money having depreciated to such an extent, that virtually it amounted to little more than a nuisance; and in fact, all circumstances seemed to indicate a general failure. Congress in the mean time was surrounded with difficulties which would even have utterly discouraged men of weaker heads and fainter hearts. They were without power, except the power to recommend. They had an exhausted army to recruit, and this, not merely without specie, but almost without credit; seeing that nothing effectively could be accomplished, the members resolved to constitute General Washington in all respects a Dictator, or in reality a Commander-in-chief.

Later in the year new rays of light came to the patriotic hearts and fresh cheer greeted the struggling

nation. Washington had proved himself the proper man in whom to entrust supreme command; he solicited patriots to contribute to the nation's cause; thoroughly reorganized the army and put the rank and file in a fighting condition. His policy was not to risk a battle in open field with a force superior to his, where defeat would be ruinous, but harass the enemy by unexpected attacks, flank movements, counter-marches and ambuscades. In this he imitated the ancient Roman General Fabius, and so Washington came to be known as the American Fabius. The brilliant movements made by Washington under the new national flag, the stars and stripes, which had just been adopted, commanded the admiration of entire Europe; many individuals privately assisted the colonists, and some few even emigrated and volunteered, and among the latter we must ever be pleased to mention Lafayette, Kosciusko, Pulaski and DeKalb.

Frederick the Great of Prussia, the greatest General of the age, said, "That young American general is opening a new chapter in the art of war. England has no man to match him; and I like those brave fellows under him, and can not help secretly hoping for their success". Words of appreciation and love from so great a man, immediately kindled in the foreign hearts a deep sympathy. Baron Steuben, the disciplinarian of the Prussian army, became a volunteer in the American forces and was at once made inspec-

tor General of the American army; he drilled the soldiers in the tactics of war as practiced in Europe, and from that time the Americans never suffered defeat from an equal British force.

Dr. Franklin in the mean time patiently and attentively labored with the French government and sufficiently convinced the French that the Americans would ultimately triumph; a treaty was made recognizing the independence of the United States, and the French government immediately lent assistance in the shape of money, ships, troops and generals.

From this date we count the turning point of the war. The British still encamped at Philadelphia, but upon learning that the French fleet would arrive early in 1777 to enforce the Americans, they fled from the Quaker town and took refuge in New York. The Continental Congress was overjoyed at the evacuation of Philadelphia and anon returned to the patriotic city to continue their important work. Thus the storm that had gathered to close out heavenly light from the young republic, broke away once more; and glittering hope reigned in the once despondent breasts; the almost surrendering heart gathered new courage, and again the Continental Congress began to arrange for a Committee on GREAT SEAL. Nearly three years had rolled into the memorable past, since the first Committee was appointed, and during this long interval the bravest hearts and soundest minds doubted

whether independence could be won; but the "darkest clouds had silvery linings", and God favored the struggling patriots.

On the afternoon of Wednesday, March 24, 1779, the snow lay deep around Independence Hall, and cold winds whistled doleful tunes in its loose windows; but within the old building, all was fired with patriotism and a warm current of confidence passed through the despondent hearts as James Lovell of Massachusetts addressed the Continental Congress on the "Grand Future of the United States". Mr. Lovell was a great orator, and in his usual spirited manner kindled flames in the hearts of his hearers. In the course of his speech he took great joy in referring to the grand triumph of Gates over the British at Saratoga, and later he made unworthy reflections on the noble Washington; gave all possible laurels, praise and compliments to General Gates, whose confident he certainly was in this Congress. He intimated, with a man like Gates as Commander-in-chief, the Colonists would quickly rally, defeat the King's regulars and in reality make these the Independent States of America. In closing, he prophesied, that the British would eventually be beaten, even if the Continentals fought under the dictatory of Washington; and consequently he requested, since success was certain, that the President appoint a Committee to prepare a Great Seal for the nation.

John Jay, the fiery young Huguenot from New York, was the presiding officer, and he appointed Mr. Lovell of Massachusetts, with Scott of Virginia, and Houstoun of Georgia, as such Committee, requesting that they report within a fortnight. The Committee immediately set to work, but the bulk of the labor fell to the hands of chairman Lovell, who applied for artistic assistance to Du Simitiere, who had done justice to the devices suggested by the former Committee. After a lapse of some ten days Lovell showed his device to his coadjutors, who highly approved of the same, and on the 10th of May following the Committee reported that—

"THE SEAL shall be four inches in diameter; on one side the arms of the United States as follows:—

"The Seal charged in the field with thirteen diagonal stripes, alternately red and white.

"SUPPORTERS: *dexter*, Warrior holding a sword; *sinister*, a figure representing Peace, bearing an olive branch.

"THE CREST, a radiant constellation of thirteen stars.

"THE MOTTO: '*Bello Vel Pace*'.

"THE LEGEND round the achievement, '*Seal of the United States*'.

"ON THE REVERSE: — The figure of Liberty, seated on a chair, holding the staff and cap.

"MOTTO: '*Semper*'; underneath, 'MDCCLXXVI'."

The report made a favorable impression on the members. On account of important matters demanding immediate attention, further consideration of the Seal was postponed until May 17th, when after a lengthy and heated discussion, the report was ordered to be recommitted. Now while the same Committee is engaged re-devising a Seal, let us determine the latent meaning of the device just submitted.

LOVELL'S DESIGN, 1779.

Lovell's design is one that has few, but expressive charges, and is much after the same pattern as the one suggested by Du Simitiere to the first Committee on Seal; and no doubt in this sketch the Frenchman drew in the design, a few of his own ideas.

THE SHIELD with its canopy of thirteen stars in a blue field, surrounded by clouds, was intended to represent the national ensign—the "Stars and Stripes" —the significance and origin of which, we will study in analysing the present Great Seal of the U. S.

THE DEXTER SUPPORTER is a Warrior clothed in a coat-of-mail and typifying an American, similar to the *sinister supporter* in Du Simitiere's Design, from which Lovell borrowed the idea; having only changed his position, his uniform and weapons.

THE SINISTER SUPPORTER, the Goddess of Peace, bearing in her left hand an olive branch, definitely tells of the motives intended, and but a brief description will suffice.

Years and years ago, in time we now call ancient, the people were incessantly engaged in wars; and as civilization advanced, the braves and heroes began to dislike their savage life, and sought reconciliation and peace.

ENG. 57.

LOVELL'S DESIGN (obverse*).

Those who believed there was more human happiness in a peaceful life, created a Goddess to whom they offered sacrifice and placed her in the Pantheon; while those who thought otherwise worshiped the Goddess of War.

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*) Lovell's original design was accidentally torn, and pasted on another piece of paper, as represented in the (Eng. 57). Nearly all the illustrations or devices in our "Story of the Great Seal", are correct copies of the original rude sketches now deposited in the Government Archives at Washington, D. C.

The ancient Romans were among the first to place among their mythological gods a Goddess of Peace, whom they agreeably named *Concordia*, meaning harmony between hearts and minds, or peace.

As early as 500 years B. C., Concordia, the divinity of peace, was worshiped by the Romans and in her honor several temples were erected, perhaps the most ancient and celebrated of these was that built by Camillus, shortly before his death (367 B. C.). This temple, named after the goddess, he erected on the declivity of the capitol, to commemorate the reconciliation of the Patricians and Plebians, after the enactment of the Licinian Rogation.

In this magnificent house of worship the senate of Rome often met, and among the peace-seeking Romans Concordia was most devotedly loved. The people were so devoted to the goddess, that in one instance, rather than fight, they preferred to quiet the enemy by paying them sacks and sacks of gold, if they would yield to reconciliation and peace. Men who arranged treaties, were called *Concordists*, since they fulfilled the wishes of the goddess; and in that same sense we speak of them to-day. Concordia was generally represented as a matron, holding in her right hand a patera or an olive branch*), and in her left hand a cornucopia filled with flowers. Her sym-

*) The olive branch we will study in the present Seal of the nation.

bols were two clasped hands and two snakes entwined about a wand. This goddess was to the Romans, what Irene was to the Greeks.

THE MOTTO: *"Bello Vel Pace"*, was borrowed from the device of Du Simitiere, of 1776.

THE DESIGNATION BORDER is properly filled, but in the report is not given as such.

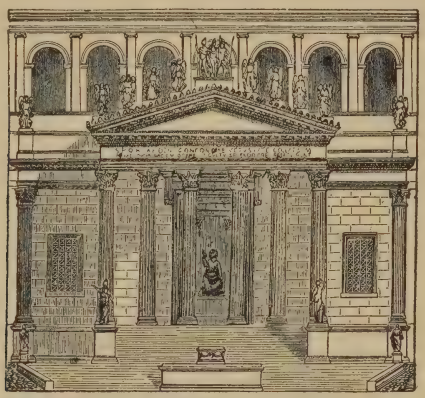
ENG. 58.

LOVELL'S DESIGN (reverse).

THE REVERSE presents a very simple yet highly appropriate device. The Goddess of Liberty and staff is taken either from Du Simitiere's or Jefferson's Conjoint Design, and differs only in her, here having a seated posture and holding in her left hand a laurel branch, and the liberty-cap surrounded by a glory. The laurel branch signifies that the goddess has succeeded in her fight for freedom; her sitting on a chair

indicates, that she is now at peace and rest; and the glory about her cap means, that the battle has been a great triumph and is the hallowed symbol of the goddess.

The motto "*Semper*", above her head, denotes that her reign of Liberty shall be "Everlasting". In the exergue the date MDCCLXXVI. The only device that remains to be explained is the laurel branch,



ENG. 59.

TEMPLE OF PEACE (Roman Concordia).

and it we learn has an ancient history. Apollo, the great divinity of the ancient Greeks, has among his symbols, as early as 600 B. C., the laurel branch as a token of success. In the days of Roman greatness the laurel was considered an emblem of victory and likewise of clemency. Berry-bearing twigs of laurel were wound about the foreheads of victorious heroes

and poets, and the returning soldiery bore branches in their hands and hats. The custom of crowning successful poets, scientists and philosophers with leaves of this tree gives origin to the expression poets laureate, etc. In later times the wreaths of laurel with berries (baccae) were placed upon the heads of students who took their degrees, and were hence known as *bacca-laureates*, a name still retained in the universities, and from which through the French *bachelier*, our present word and degree Bachelor, is derived. The laurel branch suggested itself to Lovell from the *Reverse* side of the Great Seal of South Carolina; adopted Oct. 9, 1777, on this Seal, Hope is advancing over a rock, which is rugged and steep behind, but a smooth and gentle ascent before. The way is strewn with the arms of an enemy, she holds in her right hand a laurel branch, and has a view of the sun rising in full splendor.

CRITIQUE.

As a whole the design is well draughted, but three defects present themselves, namely: — 1st, the warrior or dexter supporter is a weak personification of an American and his dress is not original, being a coat-of-mail of the Romans; 2d, in the design submitted there are fourteen instead of thirteen stars in the crest of the Seal; 3d, the Shield contains but ten instead of thirteen stripes alternate red and white.

BIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENTS.

EDWARD RUTLEDGE.

THE Rutledge family were a distinguished body during the revolutionary period, and John and his brother Edward are among the immortals; Ed. signed the Declaration of Independence. Edward, in whom we are particularly interested at present, was born in Charleston, S. C., Nov. 23, 1749. At an early age he manifested superior qualities and excellent scholarship; he studied law in London, and on his return practiced his chosen profession in South Carolina. In 1774 he was elected a member of the Continental Congress, and so well did he discharge his duties, that he remained in this grand assemblage until 1777. In June 1776 he was a member of the first board of war, and in September was associated with Dr. Franklin and John Adams as a committee to confer with Lord Howe, as to terms of accommodation. In 1779 he was again appointed to Congress, but illness prevented his taking the seat. During the siege of Charleston, 1780, he was taken prisoner and detained for 11 months. In 1782 he again presented credentials as a member of the Continental Congress, and while serving this term was appointed one of the Committee of the Great Seal;

and in this capacity was the real worker, and did much towards having the Seal Matter adopted. From 1798 until his death, Jan. 23, 1800, he was governor of South Carolina.

ELIAS BOUDINOT.

This American patriot was born in Philadelphia, May 2, 1740. He was descended from a family of

ENG. 60.

EDWARD RUTLEDGE.

French Huguenots; studied law, commenced practice in New Jersey, was early a devoted advocate of the patriotic cause, and in 1777 was appointed by Congress, Commissioner General of Prisoners. During the year 1777 he was elected a member of Congress and

so faithfully discharged his duties, that he remained a member of the body for years. In 1782 he was appointed on the Seal Committee, and took great care, that the report submitted, should be accepted; but to his disappointment it was rejected, though he continued assisting subsequent committees. In 1782 he was chosen President of the Continental Congress, and while as such, signed the treaty of peace. In 1796 G. Washington appointed him Sup't of the U. S. Mint, which office he held till 1805, when he resigned. He became Trustee of Princeton College in 1805, and died Oct. 24, 1821.

HENRY MIDDLETON.

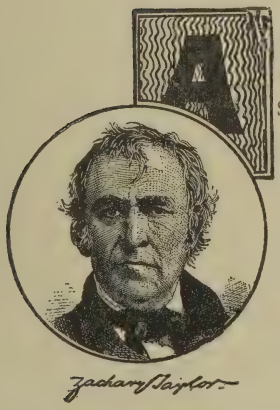
Middleton is the name of a family noted in the history of South Carolina, and Henry, the subject of this brief sketch, was aged when the Revolution broke out. He was born about 1720, and in 1774 was chosen a member from South Carolina to the First Continental Congress, and late in the season was elected President of that famous body. In 1782 he was appointed chairman of the third Seal Committee, but on account of old age, the labor of the office devolved on Ed. Rutledge. Mr. Middleton's son Arthur signed the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Time of Henry's death, early in 1800.

CHAPTER XII.

LOVELL AND RUTLEDGE DESIGNS.

"O *first* of human blessings, and supreme!
Fair Peace! how lovely! how delightful thou!
By whose wide tie the kindred sons of men
Like brothers live, in amity combined,
And unsuspicious faith; while honest toil
Gives every joy, and to those joys a right
Which idle, barbarous rapine but usurps.
Pure is thy reign!"

JAMES THOMSON.



As usual, the Continental Congress had many discouraging items on its calendar, but notwithstanding this cold fact, in the Spring of 1780 matters took a more favorable turn and all seemed cheerful and certain. The return of Gen. Lafayette to this country, on May 15, lent great joy to Congress and assurance possessed the minds of the members of that body, that the next campaign would secure peace and independence for

the States. Although policy forebade giving publicity to the fact, that aid from abroad was near at hand, sufficient information leaked out to diffuse among the delegates pleasant hopes for the future. The Committee to whom was recommitted the re-devising of the proposed Seal, believing that the members of Congress were in good and hopeful spirits, now chose to make their report; consequently, on Wednesday, May 17, 1780, just one year to the day, when they gave their first report. The chairman, Mr. Lovell, rose in Congress and read:—

"The Committe, to whom was referred, on the 17th of March last (1779), the report of a former Committee on the devices of a Great Seal of the United States in Congress assembled, beg leave to report the following description:—

"THE SEAL to be three inches in diameter, on one side the Arms of the United States as follows:— The Shield charged in field *azure*, with thirteen diagonal stripes, alternate *rouge* and *argent*.

"SUPPORTERS: *Dexter*, a Warrior holding in hand a bow and arrow. *Sinister*, a figure representing Peace, bearing the olive branch.

"THE MOTTO: '*Bello Vel Pace Paratus*'.

"THE LEGEND around the achievement: '*The Great Seal Of The United States*'.

"ON THE REVERSE: The figure of Liberty seated on a chair holding a staff and cap.

"THE MOTTO: '*Virtute Prennis*'. Underneath MDCCLXXX".

Much to the surprise of the Committee, and especially Mr. Lovell, the Continental Congress was

ENG. 62

LOVELL'S DESIGN (Obverse).

hard to please, and contrary to what they had expected, their report was rejected; and once more the matter of a Seal rested till months and even years rolled by.

LOVELL'S DESIGN, 1780.

The Committee no doubt studiously labored to devise a Seal that would both please Congress, and

ENG. 63.

LOVELL'S DESIGN (Reverse).

be appropriate for the new government, but by some unexplainable reason the delegates failed to appreciate these worthy designs. Mr. Lovell and his fellow Committeemen, in their second report differed but slightly from that of the first. On close examination

we notice several alterations, four on the obverse, three on the reverse and one in the entirety; as follows:—

FIRST: The Seal is charged additionally with *azure,* to correspond with the American Flag.

SECOND: The red tincture is changed to rouge.

THIRD: The stars in the crest are reduced to the proper number of thirteen.

FOURTH: The American Indian was substituted for the soldier in armour; and in the figure of an Indian they intended to typify six ideas, namely:— a) Friendship; b) Dignity; c) Patience; d) Courage; e) Endurance; f) Patriotism.

(a) Once having gained the confidence of the native, the "Pipe of Peace" smoked, his *friendship* will not only be warm but constant; and if you never violate any of the bonds of mutuality, you never need fear that he will. But should you fail in the contract and turn on him, you create an enemy more alert than the dog and as fearless as the lion.

(b) The Indian is grave and dignified in his manner; in their council they are courteous to one another and discuss important matters with the utmost care and gravity. Their posture is erect, *dignified* and perfect; and but little corruption is mingled in his character.

(c) One needs but read a few pages of early American history to learn of the great *patience* of the

Indians. If they were watching a suspected enemy, they would shadow him for days and years, and not manifest the slightest sign of impatience or uneasiness.

(d) If determined to enter combat or battle, the Indian would anxiously manifest his *courage*, and un-

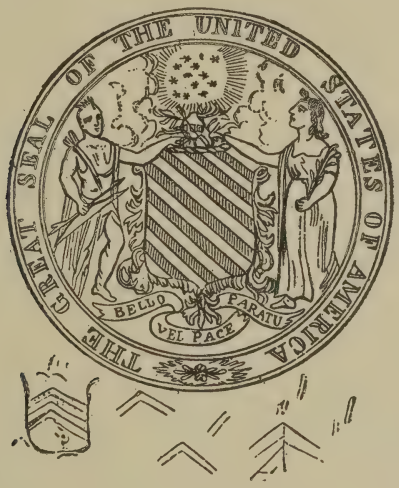
ENG. 64.

ROUGH DRAUGHT.

flinchingly stand his ground, no matter how strong the opponent or long the battle last. *Courage* and valor among them were permanent virtues.

(e) The constitution of the Indian is robust and strong; he can *endure* fatigue or torture with great firmness, and believes it unmanly to show signs of pain. When employed as a warrior, he is unsupple and active, and seemingly incapable of fatigue.

(f) Their *patriotism* is never doubted, they are ever willing to battle for their native land. This virtue in the Indian even to-day clearly shows itself; notwithstanding, that their number is small, and all their battle for regaining their land lost, they still rise up, unite, and with unparalleled patriotism attack an



ENG. 65.

ROUGH DRAUGHT.

army (the American) one hundred times stronger than their own host.

The Committee borrowed the idea of placing the Indian as a supporter from the flag of the Philadelphia Light Horse, which had as a dexter supporter of the shield an American Indian. Before this time we

found the Indian on the Colonial Seal of the Massachusetts Bay Company.

FIFTH. The motto is changed to read: "*Bello Vel Pace Paratus*"; meaning that war and peace went side by side, and that we were prepared "Either for Peace or War".

ENG. 66.

ROUGH DRAUGHT.

SIXTH: The motto: "*Semper*" on the reverse, was omitted, and in its stead "*Virtute Prennis*", meaning, "*Virtue alone endures*", indicating by this, that the fundamental basis of the new nation was virtue, and in consequence would endure or survive. This idea was borrowed from Adams' design.

SEVENTH: The Goddess has in her left hand a dagger substituted for the laurel branch, and this sig-

nifies, that she is ever prepared to defend our Liberties and preserve her symbols, the cap and staff.

EIGHTH: The date was changed from 1776 to 1780, and the intended meaning was, that the Colonies did not until MDCCXLXX enjoy their Independence and Liberty.

NINTH: The diameter of the proposed Seal was changed from four to three inches.

ENG. 67.

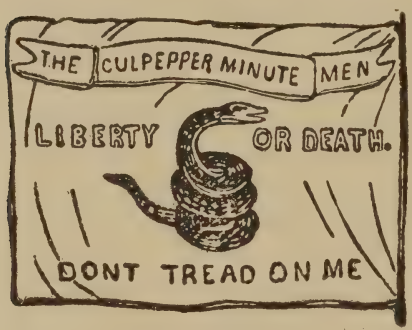
SEAL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

This design, as a whole, demonstrated most clearly, that the Committee labored conscientiously, with a view to draught some appropriate device, that might meet the good will and approval of the now most dignified Congress. The proposed Seal, with few exceptions, was the most perfect exposition, and perhaps the grandest embodiment of the latent American ideas and symbols; the design, though simple, contained the cherished index characters of a free and liberty loving people.

CRITIQUE.

This Committee of the Great Seal had learned valuable lessons from the failures of the preceding Committees, both as to desirable devices and laws of heraldry; in consequence of these object lessons,

this Committee had few thorns or obstacles in their path. The design hence stands out boldly and deserves little or no criticism. The only apparent mistake we find, is in the date MDCCLXXX (1780); this, beyond a possible gap for question, should have been MDCCLXXVI (1776), as this year gave birth to the Declaration of Independence, from which time on, we enjoyed governmental freedom.



ENG. 68.

CULPEPPER FLAG.

ROUGH DRAUGHTS.

The rude pensketches presented, show some suggestions made while the Committee was in consultation, and present topics of interest. They seemed most confused as to what should constitute a proper reverse. After the first report had been made, they erased the word "Semper", and were much at loss as to what they should substitute; finally they placed over it *Libertas, Virtute, Prennis*, and having been displeased with that motto, they omitted the word *Libertas,* and left it *Virtute Prennis.* This motto they compiled from a device on a fifty-dollar bill of September 1778, which had the word *Prennis* over a symbol of the Union of Colonies; they simply in place of the symbol added

the words *Libertas, Virtute.* But it seemed they were not wholly contented yet, and drew a third reverse; this time they chose to change the date, laurel branch, and motto. As the "war-cry" they selected "*Aut Haec Aut Nullus*", meaning: "Either this, or Nothing",

ENG. 69. ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

referring to Liberty, who sat beneath it. This patriotic phrase came from the lips of Patrick Henry in March 1775, when in an eloquent speech at St Johns' Church, Virginia, he concluded with those burning words: "*Give me Liberty, or give me Death*". The saying immediately became the battle-cry of the patriots,

and the words were embroidered on several standards. Although Henry deserves great credit for so inspiring the colonials, yet it has become questionable, as to the originality of the same; we find, that ages ago, Julius Caesar of Rome, uttered the self-same sentiments when he said: "I will attain supreme eminence as Emperor, or perish in the attempt", and on his coins beneath his bust were inscribed the Latin words: "*Aut Caesar Aut Nullus*". "Either Emperor, or Nothing (Death)".

But the Committee decided, that they would not offer this as the national motto, and so canceled it on the design.

Congress having been very reluctant about adopting any of the devices thus far submitted, goes to prove forcibly, that as a body they seriously doubted that Independence would be won. It was always an easy matter to have a committee appointed to prepare a Seal, but when the time came for approvals, the *doubting delegates* were in the majority and believed it rediculous to adopt a Seal until supremacy was established. The Seal matter in particular buoyed the question of whether or not we were a nation while we were yet battling for freedom; the *confidential delegates* claimed, that our national life began with '76, while the others held, that governmental existence could only start after peace was declared and freedom reigned. Thus this vital point having

been unsettled in the minds of the Continental Congress, no further Committees on Seal were appointed till matters were more of a certainty, as to the success of the colonies. The situation of affairs at the begin-

ENG. 70.

END OF THE REVOLUTION (Yorktown).

ning of 1781 was very critical. It was seen by many, that the Union of States must have some more fully recognized central authority, instead of remaining a mere league, as it had been. However, early in March, Maryland ratified the articles of Confederation, and completed the number required, so the Federal

Union became a fact. But notwithstanding, that the colonies had submitted themselves to the central power at Philadelphia, Congress was still flooded with perplexing questions, the solution of which manifested the general weakness of Congress. The soldiers now openly rebelled for want of food, pay and clothing, and had it not been for the benefactor Robert Morris, the outcome of the war would have been less glorious; he gave his own notes for one million four hundred thousand dollars for the aid of the army, and thus helped it through the summer campaign, which led the patriots on to triumph. The Fall of the year brought untold courage, confidence and fidelity to the hearts of all Americans; Washington had the largest force he ever commanded, sixteen thousand; the British, under Cornwallis at Yorktown, Va., had an army of eight thousand, embracing the flower of the British forces. A siege of three weeks and a few hours of hard battle, and the war for Independence was won.

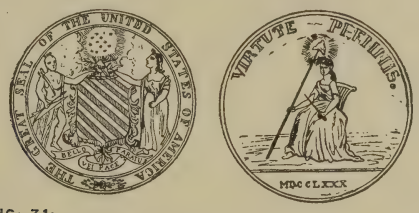
The roaring Lion now lay at the proud foot of a conqueror (Uncle Sam), and the sword of England was tendered the young republic. The wildest excitement and rejoicings prevailed in the army, while the citizens gave patriotic demonstrations, and joy pervaded every heart.

Congress met at an early hour and marched in

NEW COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

solemn procession to the Lutheran Church, there to return thanks to the Almighty God.

Early in April, 1782, John Hansen, then President of the Continental Congress, briefly addressed that body on the necessity of a National Seal, and appointed Henry Middleton, Elias Boudinot, and Edward Rutledge as a Committee to prepare a suitable



ENG. 71.

RUTLEDGE'S DESIGN.

device. The Committee, after a diligent search for *something appropriate* finally agreed, that they report substantially as the Committee of 1780, and so on the 9th of May, 1782, Chairman Middleton submitted the former designs. The only additional feature in their report was, that they prepared a miniature of the face of the Great Seal, half its diameter should be prepared and affixed as the Lesser Seal of the United States*).

The Continental Congress having been overjoyed by the triumph over the British, were so deeply ab-

*) Critique on this, the Rutledge design, same as last design of the Lovell Committee.

sorbed in the grandeur of the new inheritance, that the devices suggested were deemed unworthy to represent the young and dignified Republic, and in consequence of congressional dissatisfaction about the propositions, the entire previously submitted devices were, on the 13th of June, 1782, referred to the talented Charles Thomson, Secretary of the Continental Congress.

BIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENT.

WILLIAM BARTON.

WILLIAM Barton came from one of the most intellectual families of the colonial period, and was born in the state of Pennsylvania, about the year 1752. Will was the brother of Doctor Benjamin Smith Barton, Professor of Materia Medica, Natural History and Botany, in the University of Pennsylvania. He was the eldest son of Rev. Barton, rector of St. James Church, at Lancaster, Pa., by his first wife Esther Rittenhause, sister of the celebrated mathematician and astronomer, David Rittenhause. Under the patronage of the Hon. Thomas Penn, one of the proprietaries of the province of Pennsylvania, and his wife, Lady Jane Penn, Mr. Will Barton was sent to study Law in the Temple in London, England. He returned from London in 1779, having completed his collegiate course, and on his arrival in America, subscribed to the oath of allegiance to the colonies. And it was, while on a brief visit to Philadelphia, this same year, that Secretary Thomson with others called upon him to design sketches for an appropriate Seal for the struggling Confederacy. In 1783 he was admitted to the Lancaster bar, and became at once

a strong advocate for the cause of the Colonies. His ability and ingenuity as a jurist and his known integrity of character, soon attracted the notice of Gen.

ENG. 72.

WILLIAM BARTON.

Washington, by whom he was named as one of the judges of the Western Territory, and whose nomination was promptly confirmed by the Senate. In 1791 he was recommended as a candidate for the office of President-Judge of the judicial district, composed of Lancaster, Chester, York and Dauphin counties; but

was defeated by two votes. In 1800 Mr. Barton moved to Philadelphia, and while there was appointed Prothonotary of Lancaster county, including the city of Philadelphia. In 1803 he was commissioned Clerk of the Orphan's Court and he held the last office jointly up to 1809. He was a fine scholar, and in 1809 he was elected Secretary of the Philadelphia Philosophical Society, and received the honorary degree of Master of Arts from the University of Pennsylvania. He was also a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and also the Royal Economical Society of Valencia, Spain. He was the author of a dissertation on the "Freedom of Navigation and Maritine Commerce; also a Biographical sketch of the Philosopher Rittenhause, L. L. D., F. R. S." Barton resided in Lancaster during the last years of his life. He was married to Elizabeth, daughter of John Rhea, a merchant of position, by whom he had nine children. One of his sons, John Rhea Barton, was a surgeon of world-wide reputation; and another son, Dr. W. P. C. Barton, was a surgeon in the U. S. Navy, and was at one time Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery at Washington, D. C. Barton's time of death was not ascertainable, but let us hope he lived to a ripe old age.

CHAPTER XIII.

BARTON'S DESIGNS.

"Oh joy to the world! the hour is come
When the nations to *Freedom* awake,
When the royalists stand agape and dumb,
And monarchs with terror shake!
Soon, soon shall the thrones that blot the world,
Like the Orleans into the dust be hurl'd
And the world roll on, like a hurricane's breath,
Till the farthest nations hear what it saith,
Arise! Arise!! Be Free!!!"

THOMAS B. READ.

IT certainly was a great compliment to Secretary Charles Thomson, to have the Continental Congress as by general consent, tender him the honor of preparing a device for a great Seal; he had served nine years as Secretary of the Continentals — ever since their organization in 1774 — and that body had implicit confidence, that a satisfactory design would come from

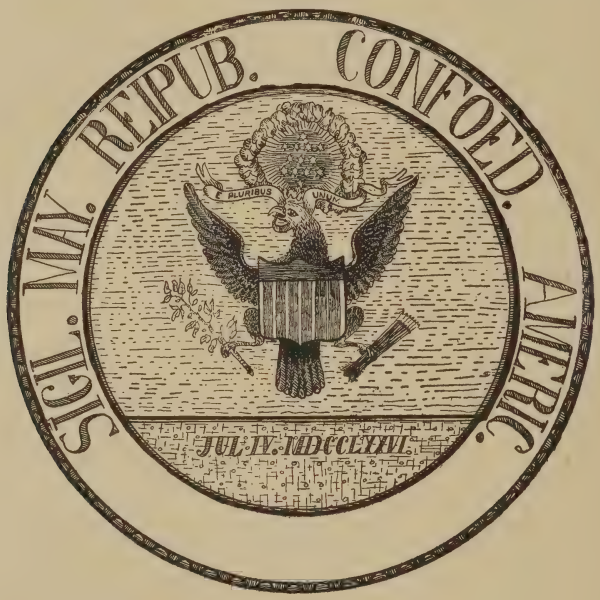
the mind of "Everybody's Friend," — as the old sage was familiarly known. On the afternoon of June 13, 1782, immediately after his appointment, he, in the company of Dr. Arthur Lee and Elias Boudinot, set out soliciting designs for the Seal; they had called at several of the dwellings of prominent men of Philadelphia, requesting, they should devise designs, and among those called upon was one, a young and talented graduate, Mr. Will Barton, A. M., brother of the patriotic Dr. Benjamin Barton. Young Barton unhesitatingly told Thomson, that he would diligently comply with the request, and the three missionaries left, feeling sure, that an appropriate device would ripen ere the next morn. The ambitious young Barton at once began rummaging through his few books on heraldry, and after remaining up nearly all that night, bothering his yet unrested system, he retired believing that the question of an ideal Seal was solved.

BARTON'S FIRST DESIGN.

Early the next day he anxiously hastened to the residence of Thomson and presented him with a design with the following description:—

"Device for an Armorial Achievement for the United States of North America, blazoned agreeably to the laws of Heraldry, proposed by Mr. Barton, A. M.

"ARMS — Paleway of thirteen pieces, argent and gules; a chief azure; the escutcheon placed on the breast of an American eagle (the bald-headed), dis-



ENG.

BARTON'S FIRST DESIGN.

played proper; holding in his beak a scroll, inscribed with the motto, viz.:

'E PLURIBUS UNUM,'

and in his dexter talon, a palm or an olive branch; in the other a bundle of thirteen arrows; all proper.

"FOR THE CREST. — Over the head of the eagle, which appears above the escutcheon, a glory, or breaking through a cloud, proper, and surrounding thirteen stars, forming a constellation, argent on an azure field.

"In the exergue of the Great Seal,

'JUL IV., MDCCLXXVI.'

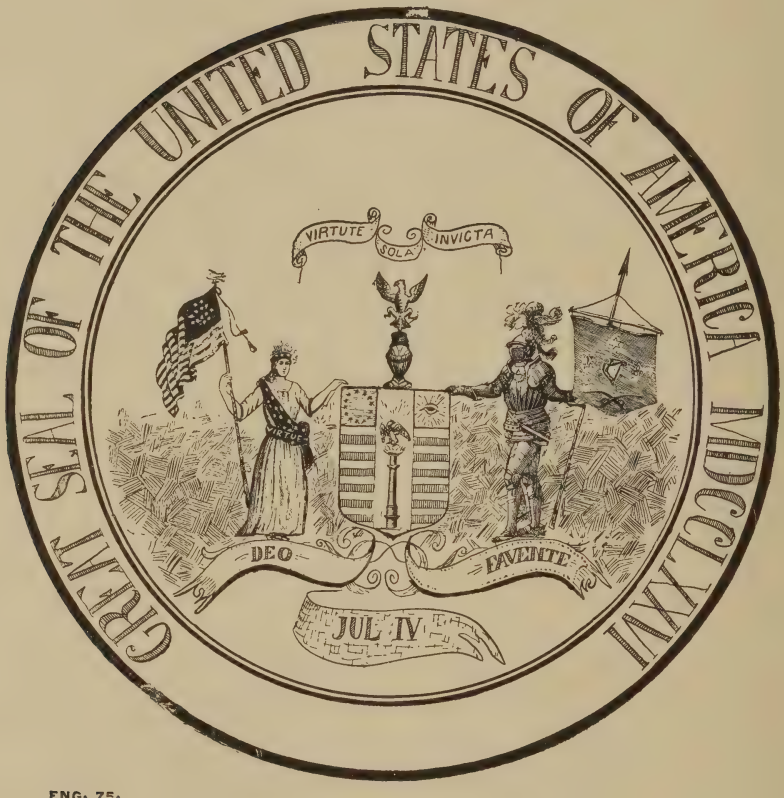
"In the margin of the same,

'*Sigil. May. Reipub. Confoed. Americ.*

"Remarks.—The escutcheon is composed of the chief and pale, the two most honorable ordinaries; the latter represents the several States, all joined in one solid compact entire, supporting a chief, which unites the whole and represents Congress. The motto alludes to the Union. The colors or tinctures of the pales are those used in the flag of the United States. White signifies purity, innocence; red, hardiness and valor. The chief denotes Congress. Blue is the ground of the American uniform, and this color signifies vigilance, perseverance, and justice.

"The meaning of the crest is obvious, as is likewise that of the olive branch and arrows.

"The escutcheon being placed on the breast of the eagle is a very ancient mode of bearing, and is truly imperial. The eagle displayed is another heraldric figure; and, being born in the manner here described, supplies the place of supporters and crest. The American States need no supporters but their



ENG. 75.

BARTON'S SECOND DESIGN.

own virtue, and the preservation of their Union through Congress. The pales in the Arms are kept closely united by the chief, which last likewise de-

pends on the Union, and strength resulting from it, for its own support; the inference is plain

"JUNE 13, 1782. W. B."

Mr. Thomson was highly pleased with young Barton's device, but intimated, that the design if anything was too plain, where upon Barton offered to complete another.

BARTON'S SECOND DESIGN.

June 15th Barton again called at Thomson's residence where he found the Secretary, Dr. Arthur Lee and Elias Boudinot awaiting his arrival. Barton, after a few moments of verbal exchange, handed them a large drawing with the following description:

"A device for an armorial achievement for the Great Seal of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, agreeable to the rules of Heraldry, proposed by William Barton, A. M.

"ARMS. — Barry of thirteen pieces, argent and gules, on a canton azure, and many stars disposed in a circle of the first; a pale or, surmounted of another, of the third, charged in chief, with an eye surrounded with a glory proper; and in the fess-point an eagle displayed on the summit of a Doric column, which rests on the base of the escutcheon, both as the stars.

"CREST. — Or an helmet of burnished gold damasked, grated with six bars, and surmounted with a

cap of dignity, gules, turned up ermine, a cock armed with gaffs proper.

"SUPPORTERS. — *In the dexter side:* the genius of America (represented by a maiden with loose auburn tresses), having on her head a radiated crown of gold encircled with a sky blue fillet, spangled with silver stars, and clothed in a long loose white garment bordered with green. From her right shoulder to her left side a scarf, semee of stars, the tinctures thereof the same as in the canton; and round her waist a purple girdle, fringed or embroidered, argent, with the word 'Virtute', resting her interior hand on the escutcheon, and holding in the other the proper standard of the United States, having a dove argent perched on the top of it.

"*On the sinister side:* a man in complete armour, his sword-belt azure fringed with gold, his helmet encircled with a wreath of laurel, and crested with one white and two blue plumes; supporting with his dexter hand the escutcheon, and holding in the interior a lance, with the point sanguinated, and upon it a banner displayed, vert; in the fess-point a harp strung with silver, between a star in chief, two fleurs-de-lis in fess, a pair of swords in saltier, in basses, all argent. The tenants of the escutcheon stand on a scroll, on which is the following motto:

'*Deo Favente*',

which alludes to the eye in the arms, meant for the eye of Providence.

"Over the crest, in a scroll, this motto:

'*Virtus solo invicta*',

which requires no comment.

"The thirteen pieces, barways, which fill up the field of the arms, may represent the several States; and the same number of stars, upon a blue canton, disposed in a circle, represents a new constellation, which alludes to the new empire formed in the world by the Confederation of those States. Their disposition in the form of a circle denotes the perpetuity of its continuance, the ring being the symbol of eternity. The eagle displayed is the symbol of supreme power and authority and signifies the Congress; the pillar upon which it rests is used as the hieroglyphic of fortitude and constancy, and it being of the Doric order, (which is the best proportioned and most agreeable to nature), and composed of several members, or parts, all taken together, forming a beautiful composition of strength, congruity and usefulness, it may, with great propriety, signify a well-planned government. The eagle being placed on the summit of the column, is emblematic of the sovereignty of the government of the United States; and as further expressive of that idea, those two charges, or five and six azure, are born in a pale which extends across the thirteen pieces into which the escutcheon is divided. The signification of the eye has been already explained. The helmet is such as appertains to sover-

eignty, and the cap is used as the token of freedom and excellency. It was formerly worn by dukes; says Gullien, they had a more worthy government than other subjects. The cock is distinguished for two most excellent qualities, viz., vigilance and fortitude, The genius of the American Confederated Republic is denoted by the blue scarf and fillet glittering with stars, and by the flag of Congress which she displays. Her dress is white, edged with green colors, emblematic of innocence and truth. Her purple girdle and radiated crown indicate her sovereignty; the word 'Virtute' on the former, is to show, that that should be her principal ornament; and the radiated crown, that no earthly crown shall rule her. The dove on the top of the American Standard denotes the mildness and purity of her government.

"The Knight in armour, with his bloody lance, represents the military genius of the American empire, armed in defence of its just rights. His blue belt and blue feathers indicate his country, and the white plume is in compliment to our gallant ally. The wreath of laurel round his helmet is expressive of his success.

"The green field of the banner, denotes youth and vigor; the harp (with thirteen strings), is emblematic of the several States acting in harmony and concert; the star in chief has reference to America, as principal in the contest; the two fleurs-de-lis are

borne as grateful testimony of the support given to her by France, and the two swords crossing each other, signify the state of war. This tenant and his flag relate totally to America at the time of her Revolution".

(Signed)

"WILLIAM BARTON".

After thoroughly discussing the matter they agreed, that evening that Mr. Barton had done exceedingly well, but they believed the device entirely too elaborate and complex; and also that he had failed to present them with a design of the reverse side of his proposed seal. Mr. Barton however satisfied them that he would abridge the obverse, and furnish a reverse by the next meeting, which they agreed should be the following night.

BARTON'S THIRD DESIGN.

As per appointment with the same gentlemen Will Barton called, June 16th, and presented his new sketches, the description of which is as follows:—

OBVERSE SIDE.

"ARMS: — An escutcheon consisting of a blue border, spangled with thirteen white stars, and divided in the centre, perpendicularly by a gold bar; on each side of this division, within the blue border, thirteen bars or stripes, alternately white and red, like the American flag, adopted June 14, 1777. With-

NG. 76.

BARTON'S THIRD DESIGN (Obverse).

in the gold bar a Doric column resting on the base of the escutcheon, having a displayed eagle on its summit

"CREST: — A helmet of burnished gold, and engrated with six bars, and surmounted by a red cap of dignity, such as dukes wear, with an ermine lining; supporting a displayed cock armed with gaffs, in the sinister talon he held the new ensign of the Confederacy, the stars and stripes — and in the dexter talon a sword, on the point of which was suspended a wreath of laurels. Above the crest this motto:

'In Vindiciam Libertatis'.

"SUPPORTERS: — On the *dexter* side, the genius of America (represented by a maiden with loose, auburn tresses), having on her head a radiated crown of gold, encircled with a sky-blue fillet, and clothed in a long loose white garment, bordered with green. From her right shoulder to her left side a scarf, semee of stars, the tinctures thereof the same as in the shield-border, and around her waist a blue girdle, fringed or embroidered with silver; her sinister hand rested on and supported the Shield, and upon her dexter hand was perched a dove argent.

"The sinister supporter was an ideal or typical American soldier dressed in a uniform peculiar to an American, with a naked sword in the hilt, on his head a felt hat, distinguishing him as an officer, with his dexter hand resting on the escutcheon, and in his sinister a wrapped roll of paper (evidently the Declaration of Independence). The tenants of the es-

cutcheon stand on a scroll on which is the following motto:

'*Virtus Sola Invicta*'.

"The entire is designated as 'GREAT SEAL OF THE AMERICAN CONFEDERACY'."

The description of the obverse side of this design is so nearly like that of his second design, that it is unnecessary to repeat it; the only marked difference between them is the following: The shield in the latter has the stars spangled in the margin. The eye of Providence is omitted. The crest is similar with the exception that the cock has in his talons the American standard and a sword with a laurel wreath. The superior motto, "*In Vindiciam Libertatis*". — In Vindication of Liberty — is no doubt original with Barton, and refers to the crest; the dexter supporter, the genius of America, or better known as Columbia, or the Goddess of Liberty, he has but slightly changed, taking away the stars from her cap and the word *virtue* from her girdle. The sinister supporter, the typical American soldier, he chose to substitute for the Knight in full armour, and has the uniform of a general — maroon coat with epulets, vest blue, trousers dark orange, boots proper — in the hilt a naked sword, and the entire figure and dress peculiar to America, with characteristics like the sinister supporter of Du Simitiere's first design. The interior motto: "*Virtus Sola Invicta*", is a slight modification

of the armorial motto of a distinguished Lord, who had on his shield: "*Virtus Sola Nobilitat*" — Virtue Alone Ennobles.—

REVERSE SIDE.

The reverse side of this proposed Seal was simple and yet highly appropriate and perfect.

ENG. 77.

BARTON'S FOURTH DESIGN (Reverse of third design).

He proposed as the reverse, the following:

"An unfinished pyramid, consisting of ten layers of stone (he undoubtedly intended that there should be thirteen). In the zenith, the eye of Providence,

surrounded with a glory. Over or about the eye the Latin phrase "*Deo Favente*" — with God's favor. — At the base of the pyramid the word "*Prennis*"; the former motto is the same as on his second design and the latter is taken from the device of the second committee on Seal.

Mr. Barton's design solicited the valuable attention of the gentlemen present, and Dr. Arthur Lee especially complimented him on his painstaking sketches and their significant meaning. Secretary Thomson approved of the small sketch for the reverse and said he believed, little if any improvement on it could be conscientiously made. Elias Boudinot, a member of the second committee on the Great Seal said, that in as much as he had given the Seal question a special study, he in particular could be relied upon, that much if not all of Mr. Barton's device would be acceptable to Congress; that every design submitted by Mr. Barton, depicted the fundamental principle of the government, yet to be established.

Mr. Thomson then told the gentlemen he would disclose a secret as pertaining to devices on the Great Seal and Mr. Barton in particular was very anxious to learn of it. The gray headed Secretary then stepped to his case, which was flooded with valuable congressional notes and other confidential papers, and without any search among the same, brought forth an envelope that at once foretold its sources; "yes

gentlemen," said old Thomson with his usual open smile on his pale face, "its from England and from none other than our esteemed and worthy compatriot John Adams. He, you will remember, was a member of the first Committee on Seal, and as it appears from his confidential letter to me, he has not yet forsaken the duties as an ex-member of the Committee. In his note he informs me, that he 'some evenings ago per chance met at a banquet a proud member of the British aristocracy, Sir John Prestwick by name, who is a warm friend of America and an accomplished antiquarian'. Mr. Adams here tells, that in a conversation with this baron on the bright prospect of the Americans, he (Mr. Adams) mentioned the fact, that his countrymen had as yet not decided upon a national coat-of-arms. Sir John then remarked, that on his next meeting with Adams, would submit a device which he hoped the Americans would adopt.

"Accordingly, a few days after, Mr. Adams again saw the Englishman, and here is what he proposes: 'A Norman shield, party per pale of thirteen stripes, white and red; the chief of the escutcheon blue, and spangled with thirteen stars, thus signifying the protection of the Heavens, over the States'."

"Well," said Lee, "that is in brief nothing more or less than the idea shown in the first design of our friend Will Barton, differing only in the spangling of the stars; the English aristocrat places the stars on

the shield, while Will Barton placed them in the blue heavens above the shield, a more real and significant manner by far than our friend across the sea proposes."

At this period of the conversation Mr. Thomson assured Barton that he as a Committee on Seal would thoroughly review the several designs, and by the aid of experienced friends select an appropriate device for the Great Seal and report to Congress in a few days. The night was fast turning towards day as these anxious and noble patriots bade one another good night and sauntered through the dark and silent night of old Philadelphia.

CRITIQUE.

Needless to say, Mr. Barton's designs approach perfection in an heraldic sense, as well as in an artistic. In the criticism offered on his several devices, very few imperfections are noticed, but these scattering few we will give:

First Design. The critique on this device we will give when we review the present Great Seal of the United States.

Second Design has a tincture of nobility, it thus makes it disagreeable to the patriotic American; the Knight in full armour and the helmet of burnished gold is too royal for the anti-kingly citizen. He has represented the thirteen stars namely in the canton of the shield, on the standard held by the genius of

America, on the scarf about her waist and lastly on her sky-blue fillet.

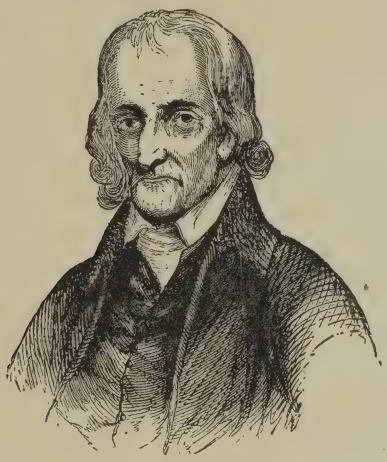
Third Design presents about the same superfluity and the same criticism, with the additional error of not having a date. The reverse of this third design we will study when analyzing our present Great Seal.

BIOGRAPHICAL FRAGMENT.

CHARLES THOMSON.

THIS "white haired honest looking" Charles Thomson was born at Maghera, Ireland, November 29, 1729, and came to America with his three elder brothers in 1741. They landed at New Castle, Delaware, with no other dependence than their industry. He was educated by Dr. Allison, the tutor of several of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Thomson had a great passion for reading and when yet a young man he had gleaned sufficient knowledge to be counted among the "literi". He was afterwards a teacher in the Friend's Academy, at New Castle, Delaware. From thence he went to Philadelphia, where he became acquainted and obtained advice from Benjamin Franklin; he soon became the intimate friend of the "learned Philadelphian" and their friendship seemed to increase daily. In 1772 he served as negotiator with the Iroquois and Delaware Indians, and his good conscientious work among the natives brought for him the worthy nickname: "Truth-teller", by which name only, the Indians cared to know him. He was a man of rare abilities and had the peculiar requisites to make and keep friends where ever he happened to meander. He

was called to the responsible duty of keeping minutes of the proceedings of the first Continental Congress in 1774, and from that time till he resigned his office in 1789, — then fifty-nine years old — he was the sole secretary of that dignified and important body.



Chas Thomson Sec'y

ENG. 78

John Adams called him "the Sam Adams of Philadelphia, the life of the cause liberty". This certainly was a compliment, especially so, since coming as it did from a tried and honest patriot. Thomson, it is true, made a most diligent secretary and in that position he had the rare pleasure of taking notes of

the reports of Committees of the Great Seal; and still greater could be his pleasure in noting in the minutes of Congress that the device of a Seal submitted by Charles Thomson was accepted and highly approved. He was the first secretary to use it.

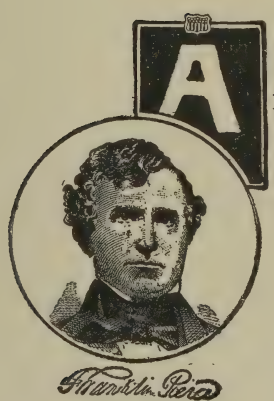
Watson in his Annals of Philadelphia relates: — Thomson had just come into Philadelphia with his bride, Miss Hannah Harrison, the Aunt of General Harrison, Pres't. of the United States (1841), and was alighting from his chaise, when a messenger from the delegates in Carpenter's Hall came to him and said, they wanted him to come and take minutes of the Continental Congress, as he was an expert at such business. For his first year's work he received no pay. So Congress informed his young wife, that since her husband received no compensation for his services, they wished to compensate her for the allowed absence of her husband during that time, and they wished her to name what kind of a piece of plate she would like to receive. She chose an *urn*, and that silver vessel is yet in the Thomson family. Thomson was the author of several popular works, but were only read during his period. Mr. Thomson died at Lower Marion, Pennsylvania, August 16, 1824. — Age, 94 years.

CHAPTER XIV.

THOMSON'S DEVICE AND ADOPTION OF THE GREAT SEAL.

"O Liberty! can man resign *thee*,
Once having felt thy generous flame?
Can dungeon's bolts or bars confine thee?
Or whips thy noble spirit tame?
Too long the world has wept, bewailing
That falsehood's dagger, tyrants wield,
But freedom is our sword and shield.
And all their arts are unavailing.
To Arms! To Arms! ye brave.
The avenging sword unsheath;
March on! March on! all hearts resolved,
On Victory or Death."

ROUGET DE LISLE.



AFTER thoroughly reviewing scores of designs for a Seal, Secretary Thomson finally concluded that the obverse of Will Barton's first, and the reverse of his last designs would be his choice, with slight modifications. He deemed the devices of young Will, thoroughly appropriate, but he believed he could improve on it and immediately set to work revising Barton's design, and draft a new one.

ENG. 80.

THOMSON'S DESIGN.

Charles Thomson's design is nearly a duplicate of Will Barton's first device, differing only in three particulars as follows: First: The shield, instead of being paleways of thirteen pieces, *argent* and *gules*

and a chief *azure*, he chose to blazoon the shield thirteen chevronel alternate *argent* and *gules*, with chief and base *azure*. Second: He gave the Seal no designation, presumably believing, that the face of the design sufficiently designated that it symbolized the United States. Third: There is no date on his proposed Great Seal.*)

Our friend, Charles Thomson, soon found that as an artist and herald he had still much to learn. His own design pleased him in some few particulars, but as a whole he discarded his conception of the shield, and began to more thoroughly appreciate the work of Will Barton, whose device he much preferred.

In the obverse of Barton's he omitted the designation "*Sigel, Mag. Repub. Confaed. Americ*" and the date "JULY IV, MDCCLXXVI," he chose to place on the new reverse only the numerical year, leaving off the day and month.

Barton's last design, the reverse, he also modified but partially as follows: — Barton designed the pyramid as being composed of thirteen solid blocks, but Thomson deemed it more befitting, that each layer or block representing a state, should in turn be subdevided, so as to indicate that each state was made

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*) THE CRITIQUE on this design will be given when studying the adopted Great Seal; the only criticism now offerd is that the method of blazooning the chevronel is hardly aesthetically conceived to say nothing of the unheraldic division of the ordinary charge the chevron.

up of several distinct parts; in this no doubt Thomson intended the component parts of the blocks to represent the counties or districts of the states.

The superior Motto: "*Deo Favente*"—with God's Favor—he changed to *"Annuit Coeptis,"* meaning—God has favored the undertaking. On the base of the pyramid, 1776 in Roman numerals.

The inferior Motto: "*Prennis*", he erased and substituted: "*Novus Ordo Saeclorum*" — A New Series of Ages; he then requested Barton to draw the device.

Thus we find that Will Barton proposed and drew a fine and ideal Seal, and Thomson accepted the entirety and reported it to Congress.

On May 20th the talented Thomson, believing he had ultimately solved the problem of the Seal question, he made known to John Hanson, president of the Continental Congress, that he was ready and well prepared to report on the devising of an *appropriate Seal.* After the usual preliminary routine of business had been acted upon, the president called for the report on Seal whereupon the meager figure and furrowed countenance of Charles Thomson was the foci of all eyes, and in his usual deliberate and distinct voice read as follows: —

"The Secretary of the United States, in Congress assembled, to whom were referred the several reports of Committees on the device of a Great Seal to take order reports:

"That the device for an armorial achievement and reverse of a Great Seal for the United States in Congress assembled, is as follows: —

"ARMS. — Paleways of thirteen pieces, *argent* and *gules*, a chief *azure*. The escutcheon on the breast of the American bald eagle, displayed *proper*, holding in his dexter talon an olive-branch, and in his sinister, a bundle of thirteen arrows, all *proper*, and in his beak a scroll, inscribed with this motto:—

'*E Pluribus Unum.*'

"FOR THE CREST. — Over the head of the eagle, which appears above the escutcheon, a glory, *or* breaking through a cloud *proper*, and surrounding thirteen stars, forming a constellation, *argent* on an *azure* field.

"REVERSE. — A pyramid unfinished. In the zenith an eye in a triangle, surrounded with a glory *proper*. Over the eye these words:—

'*Annuit Coeptis.*'

"On the base of the pyramid the numerical letters MDCCLXXVI., and underneath the following motto:

'*Novus ordo Seclorum.*'"

"REMARKS AND EXPLANATIONS.—The escutcheon is composed of the *chief* and *pale*, the two most honorable ordinaries. The pieces *paly*, represent the several states all joined in one solid compact entire, supporting a *chief* which unites the whole and repre-

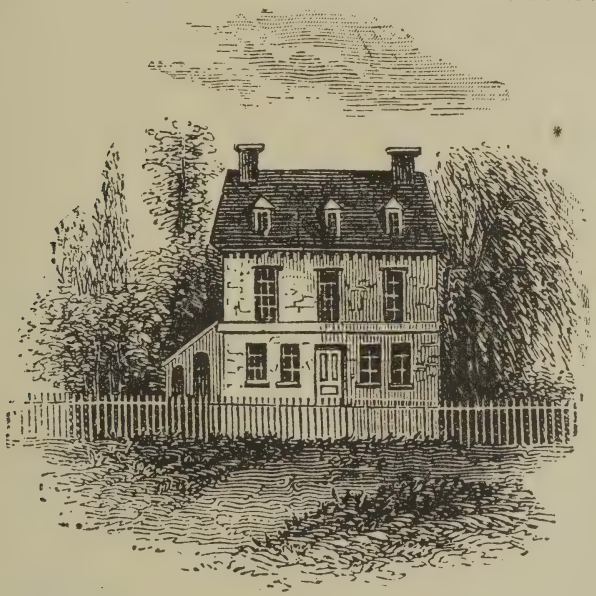
sents Congress. The motto alluding to this Union. The *pales* in the Arms are kept closely united by the *chief*, and the *chief* depends upon that union, and the strength resulting from it for its support to denote the Confederacy of the United States of America, and the preservation of the Union through Congress.

"The colors of the *pale* are those used in the flag of the United States of America; white signifies purity and innocence; red, hardiness and valor; and blue, the color of the *chief*, signifies vigilance, perseverance and justice. The olive-branch and arrows denote the power of Peace and War, which is exclusively vested in Congress. The constellation denotes a new State taking its place and rank among sovereign powers. The escutcheon is borne on the breast of the American eagle, without any other support, to denote that the United States of America ought to rely on their own virtues.

"REVERSE.—The pyramid signifies strength and duration. The eye over it and the motto, allude to the many and signal interpositions of Providence in favor of the American cause. The date underneath is that of the Declaration of Independence; and the words under it signify the beginning of the new American era which commences from that date."

Hardly had Thomson finished reading the report, when a member (undoubtedly Thomson's advisor Elias Boudinot) arose and moved the report be accepted;

a second was heard and President Hanson put the question; one unanimous "*yae*" from the delegates and Thomson's report lay in the hands of his congressional admirers. President Hanson believed,



ENG. 81

SECRETARY THOMSON'S RESIDENCE.

that the proposed Seal design had captured the good will of the delegates, asked if the house was ready to have the report passed to second and third reading. At this point Mr. Middleton by motion and second by Mr. Lovell, both of whom were former members of the Seal Committee, motioned and carried that

second and third readings be dispensed with and that final vote be here and now taken. Secretary Thomson, by request of the chair, called off the names and noted the members' voice on the vote on adoption of report on Great Seal; and the following shows at whose mercy the proposition stood:*)—

NEW HAMPSHIRE.
Mr. Gilman.

MASSACHUSETTS.
Mr. Osgood.
Mr. Lovell.

RHODE ISLAND.
Mr. Cornell.
Mr. Howell.
Mr. Ellery.

CONNECTICUT.
Mr. Huntington.
Mr. Dyer.
Mr. Root.
Mr. Law.

NEW YORK.
Mr. Floyd.
Mr. Scott.

NEW JERSEY.
Mr. Clark.
Mr. Boudinot.
Mr. Condict.
Mr. Witherspoon.

MARYLAND.
‖ Mr. Hanson.
Mr. Wright.

PENNSYLVANIA.
Mr. Smith.
Mr. Wynkoop.
Mr. Montgomery.
Mr. Clymer.
Mr. Atlee.

DELAWARE.
Mr. McKean.
Mr. Dickinson.
Mr. Whartson.

SOUTH CAROLINA.
Mr. Ramsey.
Mr. Rutledge.
Mr. Izard.
Mr. Middleton.

GEORGIA.
Mr. Jones.
Mr. Few.
Mr. Telfair.

VIRGINIA.
Mr. Madison.
Mr. Bland.

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*) North Carolina was not represented in this Continental Congress until Monday, July 22d, 1782; when by appointment of the governor, Messrs Hawkins, Nash, Williamson and Blount took their seats.—

‖) Mr. Hanson as president of the body did not cast his vote.

The president then called for the vote and Secretary Thomson with an expressive smile announced, that it had been the unanimous wish of the body present to adopt the report.

The chair then appointed Mr. Thomson as a committee to see that the proposed Seal be made, and delivered to the President of the Continental Congress. The faithful Secretary then heartily thanked the chair and the delegates and informed them, that little of the task of designing the adopted Seal devolved on him, that he had had many devices to select from and that to a young student, William Barton by name, the Congress owed their thanks and as well compliment; Thomson in his brief remarks intimated, that he prefer resigning the appointment of execution of the adopted Act, as he little knew of Seal or metalic-die making.

But before the gray-haired Secretary could impress the Chair as regards his declination, some anxious member moved to adjourn and at once a second was heard, the motion put and carried.

Nearly all the members had left the Hall as the day was unusually bright and inviting; but the Secretary and a few of his admirers were still deliberately discussing where the Seal might be made. They were yet talking when the janitor with apparatus for cleaning and closing arrived, and the day's sun just peeped over the western mounts as the straggling delegates

with "*Good night, your honor,*" separated and hastily walked to their respective supper places.

It has been claimed of late years, by historians who wrote tattered scraps on the Great Seal, that we owe the design for our nation's mark, to a titled aristocrat of a country with which we were then at war, and ultimately defeated. That this statement has been made through carelessness and lack of thorough research on the part of our historical writers, can easily be proven; and in as much as we have definite authority to establish this proof let us as Americans closely stand by our American patriot, Will Barton and give him this honor due and preserve his name among the other great benefactors of our grand Union.

The following letter Secretary Charles Thomson wrote Will Barton a few days after the adoption of the Great Seal, and in it there is all the evidence possible to refute the claims of the Royalists, and is as follows:—

PHILADELPHIA, PENN.

"MR. WILL BARTON, SIR,—

"I am much obliged for the perusal of the Elements of Heraldry which I now return. I have just dipped into it so far as to be satisfied that it may afford a fund of entertainment, and may be applied by a State to useful purposes. I am much obliged

for your very valuable present of *Fortescue de Laudibus Legum Angliæ*, and shall be happy to have it in my power to make a suitable return.

"I enclose you a copy of the device by which you have displayed your skill in heraldic science, and which meets with general approbation.

"I am sir

"Your obedient, humble servant,

(Signed)

CHARLES THOMSON.

"June 24, 1782."

In reference to the above letter Mr. Barton in after years wrote the following note, which goes to corroborate the statement, that he designed the present Great Seal of the United States:

"LANCASTER, PENN.

"In June 1782, when Congress was about to form an armorial device for a Great Seal for the United States, Charles Thomson, Esq., then secretary, with the Hon. Arthur Lee and Elias Boudinot, members of Congress, called on me and consulted me on the occasion. The Great Seal, for which I furnished those gentlemen with devices (as certified by Charles Thomson, Esq.), was adopted by Congress on the 20th of June 1782. Mr. Thomson informed me four

days after, that they (the designs) met with general approbation."

(Signed)

"W. BARTON."

The following letter from Gen. Geo. Washington, in reply to William Barton, relative to Heraldry, Coat-Armour, etc., clearly demonstrates the fact, that young Mr. Barton was a scientific Herald, and beyond a doubt the author of our national emblem and Arms. It also shows that Mr. Barton was a man of some consequence:

"MOUNT VERNON, SEPT. 7. 1788.

MR. WILLIAM BARTON,

SIR:

"At the same time I announce to you the receipt of your obliging letter of the 28th of last month, which covered an ingenious essay on Heraldry, I have to acknowledge my obligations for the sentiments your partiality has been indulgent enough to form of me and my thanks for the terms in which your urbanity has been pleased to express them.

"Imperfectly acquainted with the subject, as I profess myself to be, and persuaded of your skill as I am, it is far from my design to intimate an opinion, that heraldry, coat-armour, might not be rendered conducive to public and private uses with us; or that they can have any tendency unfriendly to the purest

spirit of republicanism. On the contrary, a different conclusion is deducible from the practice of Congress and the States; all of which have established some kind of *Armoral Device* to authenticate their official instruments. But, Sir, you must be sensible, that political sentiments are very various among the people in the several States, and that a formidable opposition to what appears to be the prevailing sense of the Union, is but just declining into peaceable acquiescence. While, therefore, the minds of a certain portion of the community (possibly from turbulent or sinister views) are, or affect to be, haunted with the very spectre of innovation; while they are indefatigably striving to make the credulity of the less-informed part of the citizens subservent to their schemes, in believing that the proposed general government is pregnant with the seeds of discrimination, oligarchy, and despotism; while they are clamorously endeavoring to propagate an idea, that those, whom they wish invidiously to designate by the name of the "well-known", are meditating in the first instance to distinguish themselves from their compatriots, and to wrest the dearest privileges from the bulk of the people; and while the apprehensions of some, who have demonstrated themselves the sincere, but too jealous friends of liberty, are feelingly alive to the effect of the actual revolution, and too much inclined to coincide with the prejudices above described, it

might not perhaps be advisable to stir any question, that would tend to re-animate the dying embers of faction, or blow the dormant spark of jealousy into an inextinguishable flame. I need not say, that the deplorable consequence would be the same, allowing there should be no real foundation for jealousy, in the judgment of sober reason, as if there were demonstrable, even palpable causes for it.

"I make these observations with the greatest freedom, because I have once been a witness to what I conceived to have been a most unreasonable predjudice against an innocent institution, I mean the Society of the Cincinnati. I was conscious, that my own proceedings on the subject were immaculate. I was also convinced, that the members, actuated by motives of sensibility, charity, and patriotism, were doing a laudable thing, in erecting that memorial of their common services, sufferings and friendships; and I had not the most remote suspicion, that our conduct therein would have been unprofitable, or unpleasing to our countrymen. Yet have we been virulently traduced, as to our designs; and I have not even escaped being represented as being short-sighted in foreseeing the consequences, or wanting in patriotism for not discouraging an establishment calculated to create distructions in society, and subvert the principles of a republican government. Indeed, the phantom seems now to be pretty well laid. except on cer-

tain occasions, when it is conjured up by designing men, to work their own purposes upon terrified imaginations. You will recollect there have not wanting, in late political discussions, those, who were hardy

ENG. 82.

ADOPTED SEAL (Obverse).

enough to assert, that the proposed general government was the wicked traitorous fabrication of the Cincinnati.

"At this moment of general agitation and earnest solicitude, I should not be surprised to hear a violent outcry raised, by those who are hostile to the new constitutional government, that the proposition contained in your paper had verified their suspicions, and proved the design of establishing unjustifiable discriminations. Did I believe that to be the case, I

should not hesitate to give it my hearty disapprobation. But I proceed on other grounds. Although I make not the clamor of credulous, disappointed, or unreasonable men the criterion of truth, yet I think their clamor might have an ungracious influence at the present critical juncture; and in my judgment, some respect should not only be paid to prevalent opinions, but even some sacrifices might innocently be made to well made prejudices in a popular government. Nor could we hope the evil impression would be sufficiently removed, should your account and illustrations be found adequate to produce conviction on candid and unprejudiced minds. For myself, I can readily acquit you of having any design facilitating the setting up of an "*Order of Nobility*". I do not doubt the rectitude of your intentions, but under the existing circumstances, I would willingly decline the honor you have intended me, by your polite *inscription*, if there should be any danger of giving serious pretext, however ill founded in reality, for producing or confirming jealousy and dissension in a single instance, where harmony and accomodation are most essentially requisite to our public prosperity, perhaps to our national existence.

My remarks, you will please to observe, go only to the expediency, not to the merits of the proposition. What may be necessary proper hereafter, I hold myself incompetent to decide, as I am but a pri-

vate citizen. You may however rest satisfied, that your composition is calculated to give favorable impressions of the science, candor and ingenuity with which you have handled the subject, and that in all personal considerations, I remain with great esteem, Sir, your most obedient, etc.,

GEO. WASHINGTON."

These three foregoing letters are certainly conclusive evidence that our own citizen and patriot, Will Barton, deserves the credit which has in the past gone to Sir John Prestwick, a baronet of West England. Moreover the above three historical letters on the death of Will Barton passed into the possession of his son, Dr. W. P. C. Barton, Surgeon of the United States Navy, and on the decease of this Barton in 1856, the letters were willed to the hands of Dr. John Rhea Barton, a brother of the former possessor, and on the departure of this Barton, the letters by heritage passed to the hands of a Granddaughter of Will Barton, who is the wife of Medical Director James D. Miller, U. S. N. Thus not traditionally do we trace and find the original designer of the Great Seal.

Moreover there is abundant testimony in the family of Sir John Prestwick to contradict the legend that a British subject furnished the design for our national Arms, and the following brieflet clearly ex-

plains; if he suggested anything at all, it was the mere spangling on the shield, with thirteen stars and nothing further.

"MANCHESTER, ENGLAND.

"My friend Sir John Prestwick, Bart., told me he was the person who suggested the idea of a coat-of-arms for the American States, to an embassador (John Adams) from thence which they (the Americans) have seen fit to put upon some of their moneys. It is this Sir John, told me— '*party per pale of thirteen stripes, white and red; the chief of the escutcheon blue spangled with thirteen stars signifying the protection of Heaven over the States*'. He says, '*It was soon after adopted as the Arms of the States and to give it more consequence they* (*the Americans*) *placed it upon the breast of a displayed eagle*'."

(Signed)

THOMAS BARRITT."

This letter obviously shows what little if anything he contributed to the design of the Great Seal; we shall more thoroughly analyze and compare his contribution when we study the Shield on the Great Seal.

Now while our friend Chas. Thomson is searching for a Seal-Engraver let us examine the resolutions of Congress and deliberately study the latent errors which present themselves on close study.

CRITIQUE.

As a whole the design presents the general and fundamental principles of the Science of Heraldry and in what few instances it particularly failed we shall see later in our research.

ENG. 83.

ADOPTED SEAL (Reverse).

The Armorial lapses of the Congressional Act are:

FIRST. In blazooning the shield (the Act) fails to designate the division lines, which no doubt are at chief and on pales — *engrailed.*

SECOND. As the pales or pallets consist of the uneven number thirteen, they ought in strictness to be blazooned as *argent* seven, and *gules* six pallets.

THIRD. The omission of "*wings elevated*" or "*tips in chief*" after the word *displayed*; and yet have the wings "inverted" or "tips in base".

FOURTH. The words, "*branch and points*", upward, since the stem of the olive-branch and the feathers of the arrow-points might according to the Act be either way and yet be correct.

FIFTH. The tincture of the scroll or motto-ribbon, which might be either red or blue and yet harmonize with the tinctures of the shield of arms is omitted.

SIXTH. The denominating the stars over the head of the eagle a "*crest*"; they are instead only approximately a crest, but not a *crest* except through the great latitude in the use of the term; because they could not be tangibly represented as in nature and be attached to the top of a helmet. Theoretically the crest we have learned must be something possible to represent in apparent solidity in carved or stamped work, which, being affixed to the helmet, can also be reasonably represented as resting upon the top of the shield.

SEVENTH. The *crest*, if there be any in the Seal, must be the head of the eagle, which in reality has a crest; even if so the Act should specify the head as turned *dexter* or *sinister*.

EIGHTH. The Act should have clearly stated the relative position of the stars; i. e., as placed in

a circle; forming one great Star; in an oblong or depressed circle; or placed miscellaneously breaking through the cloud.

NINTH. If it was intended that the new constellation was to have representation in the celestial heavens, why not specify the name of the constellation, i. e., Constellation Lyra, which is the symbol of Harmony and also has thirteen stars.

TENTH. The stars furthermore should by the Act have been denominated as five pointed (mullets), or six pointed (etoile).

ELEVENTH. It might have been well for the Act to blazoon the cloud above the eagle's head, as in *chief* a cloud or clouds, thus avoiding the possible inference that the entire field of the Shield was not covered with heavenly haze.

TWELFTH. The Act does not portray the pyramid as being composed of separate blocks, nor does it specify how many layers are to be its component parts.

THIRTEENTH. The Act lapses further in not stating whether or not the pyramid should rest on a *Terri Basi* or be like the eagle suspended and without support.

FOURTEENTH. And lastly the Act fails to denominate the size or diameter of the adopted Great Seal of the United States of America.

CHAPTER XV.

THE SEAL: ITS ENGRAVING; RECOGNITION; SEVERAL HOMES; OFFICIAL USE AND ALTERATIONS.

"O Keeper of the Sacred Key,
And the Great Seal of Destiny,
Whose eye is the blue canopy,
Look down upon the warring world,
And tell us what the end can be."

FORCEYTHE WILSON.

THE proposed Great Seal, as draughted by Mr. Will Barton, having been adopted by the Continental Congress, the next to engage the attention of the delegates, was its execution in metal. It was suggested that the seal be engraved in Paris under the charge of Benjamin Franklin, who at this time was our representative in the court of France. The art of seal-engraving in America had not as yet been developed and this necessitated the thought of having the Seal produced in foreign climes. But we learn that the kindly suggestion was not agreeably respected since the Great

Seal was engraved by some American metal engraver who resided in Philadelphia. Under the immediate supervision of the authors of the Seal, Messrs Barton and Thomson, the Great Seal was executed in

ENG. 85.

FIRST HOME OF THE SEAL.

brass. The name of the cutter is impossible to give since in the accounts of the Continental Congress, now in the custody of the Register of the Treasury, no entry appears giving any clew, nor is there any information on this matter in the present Department of State. It is presumed that the thoughtful engraver,

considering it a high compliment to have been engaged to execute the Seal of the nation, reciprocated the favor by producing the Seal gratis; and this is undoubtedly the cause of the absence of entry on the Continental accounts.

THE SEAL RECOGNIZED.

Yes, we had fought the British and won the most glorious victory the world has known. But the Independence of the States was not yet fully recognized and consequently our Seal had but yet domestic authority and none in foreign lands. The Great Seal had been cut, but it yet remained to determine its worth and character. The diplomacy of the U. S. during the war for independence is an interesting and instructive study, not because of any very brilliant achievements by diplomatic art, but because of the solid judgment and almost prophetic forecast by those in the National Council, who conceived and arranged the complicated plan and those who were interested in its execution. It must be remembered that the American statesmen who represented the revolting colonies, had no beaten track to follow, no traditionary canons to guide them. Their position was a new one, hitherto unknown in the history of nations; and when the American representatives approached those of the hoary dynasties of Europe, the fresh, free and vigorous principles of genuine Republican Democracy, unmixed with the conventionalities and maxims of

courts, were brought into contact with opinions of stately traditions of buried centuries. The task of the American diplomatist consequently difficult, though a simple one, and he was compelled to be a political inventor, with scarcely an available design for a model. Yet with such famous men as Silas Deane, Arthur Lee, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, Henry Lauren and Thomas Jefferson, the triumph of the Americans was in safe diplomatic hands; it needed but a few months of hard labor from these pillars of States, and the Independence of the United States became recognized early in 1778. France recognized the Independence of the colonies, but this recognition came prior to our victory and so the colonies counted little on this act. Through the skillful hand of John Adams, the United Provinces of the Netherlands, in 1782, formally acknowledge the Independence of the States; then followed the same recognition by Denmark, Sweden, Spain and the other powers of Continental Europe, On the 3d of September 1783 a formal treaty of peace was signed by all the nations that had engaged in the war by the United States, France, Spain and Holland on the one side, and Great Britain on the other. It was with reluctance that Mother England relinquished the colonies, yet Great Britain in the following words condescended to acknowledge her defeat and the Independence of the Colonies;—

"His Britannic Majesty acknowledges the said United States, viz.:—New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, to be FREE SOVEREIGNS, AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that he treat with them as such; and for himself, his heirs, and successors, relinquishes all claim to the government, property, and territorial rights of the same and every part thereof."

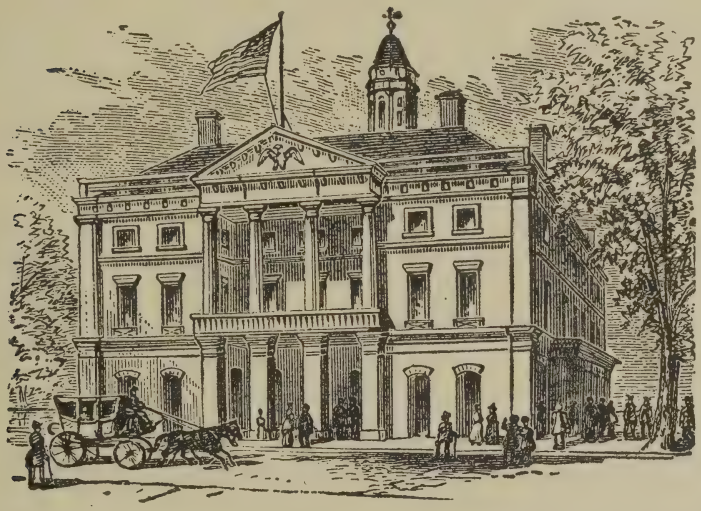
We observe that this treaty acknowledged the Independence and sovereignty of each of the thirteen States, and not of the United States as a single nation. Notwithstanding this serious oversight by our Peace Commissioners and also by the Continental Congress, the States at that time*) took it for granted that the United States and NOT each State individually, was recognized as a nation. Thus was established the

FIRST OFFICIAL USE OF THE SEAL.

The first time the Great Seal was used it was found on a commission dated September 16, 1782, granting full power and authority to General George

*) It was this careless or rather thoughtless consideration of the British recognition which in future years (Rebellion of 1861) led to a most bloody strife; and shot shell, and saber determined beyond a doubt that the Union of the States composed the Nation; and that Federal Law was superior to State Law.

Washington to arrange with the British for exchange of prisoners of War. This commission is signed by John Hansen, president of the Continental Congress, and countersigned by Charles Thomson, Secretary of the same body. The Seal on this document being



ENG. 86.

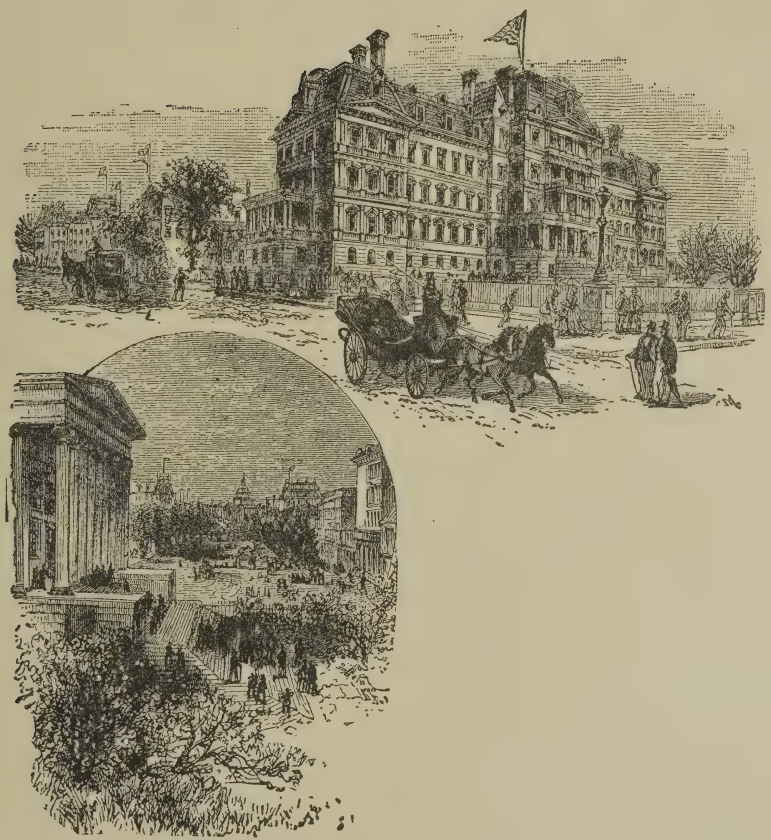
FIRST NATIONAL HOME OF SEAL.

impressed upon the parchment, over a white wafer, fastened by red wax in the upper left hand corner, instead of the lower left hand corner as is now the custom. This document is in the posession of the State Department and few papers are more carefully stored and more highly cherished.

This Seal was used during the remaining seven years of the Continental Government, and then passed into the custody of the now glorious government of the United States. While serving the Continentals the Great Seal was affixed by order of the following Presidents of the Continental Congress: John Hansen of Maryland, 1781—2; Elias Boudinot of New Jersey, 1782; Thomas Miffin of Pennsylvania, 1783; Richard Henry Lee of Virginia, 1784; Nathanial Gorham of Massachusetts, 1785; Arthur St. Clair of Pennsylvania, 1787; and Cyrus Griffin of Virginia, until the establishment of the Federal government in 1789. During this period of seven Continental Administrations there was but one person acting as Secretary, and this was the honest Charles Thomson, who was repeatedly elected to fill this great office; and in this official capacity countersigned the commissions and affixed the Great Seal.

SEVERAL HOMES OF THE SEAL.

The Great Seal in its early history had a migratory life, and has been officially used in seven cities. In Philadelphia it was used from the time of its creation until June 30th, 1783, at which time the Continental Congress established the Continental Capitol at Princeton, New Jersey; November 26th, 1783, the Seal and government were placed at Annapolis, Maryland, where it remained nearly one year; on No-



ENG. 87.

PRESENT HOME OF THE SEAL.

vember 1st, 1784, the Seal and government were established at Trenton, New Jersey, where the Seal re-

mained nearly three months, having been removed on January 11th, 1785, to New York City, which town became the first National Capitol, and in consequence on April 30th, 1789, the Great Seal was created, the National Hand Mark. The Seal remained here during Washington's administration and in July, 1791, returned to its birth-place, Philadelphia, where it served for a period of ten years, and on March 16th, 1800, was taken to Washington, D. C., its present safe and comfortable home.

SEAL KEEPER AND CUSTODIAN.

It may not be generally known that the United States, has a "Keeper of the Great Seal", yet such is the fact. The Secretary of State is recognized as the Seal-keeper, though properly speaking his office does not permit him to use the instrument, only when duty requires him to affix it to the Federal documents. The Seal custodian proper does not bear the title "Seal-keeper,"—in truth he bears no title, being in fact a high official in the State Department. The present keeper has had sole charge of the Seal, for the past forty years, and the Secretary of State himself cannot induce that faithful servant to unlock the doors, which guard that emblem of the nation's liberty, without a formal warrant signed by the President of the United States. When the Federal Government of the United States was formed under the

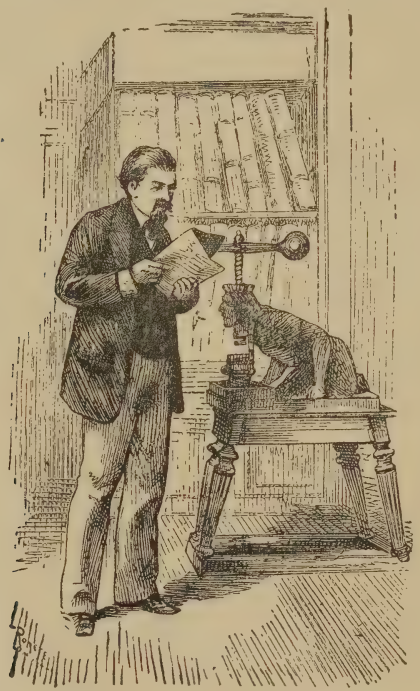
Constitution, Congress passed a law, on September 15th, 1789, creating the State Department.

"Section 3 and 4 of the Act read (I Stat; 68): SECTION 3 * * * * That the seal heretofore by the United States in Congress assembled shall and hereby is declared to be, the Seal of the United States.

'SECTION 4 * * * That the said Secretary of State shall keep said seal, and shall make out and record, and shall affix the said seal to all civil commissions, to officers of the United States, to be appointed by the president by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, or by the President alone, Provided, that the said seal should be affixed to any commission before the same shall have been signed by the President of the United States, nor to any other instrument or act, without the speciai warrant of the President theretofor".

The Secretary therefore is the custodian of the Seal, but has no power to affix it to any paper that does not bear the President's signature. In 1803, Chief Justice Marshall, in delivering an opinion of the Supreme Court used the following language relative to the Seal. "It may be considered applicable to all instruments to which the seal is affixed, except that the president's signature is considered a warrant in itself for affixing it to commissions and exequaturs. All other legal instruments require a separate warrant, signed by the President, authorizing the seal to

be used. * * * * The signature [of the President] is a warrant for affixing the Great Seal to commissions, and the Great Seal is only to be affixed to an



ENG. 88.

OLD SEAL IN OPERATION.

instrument which is complete. It attests by an act, supposed to be of public notoriety, the variety of the Presidents signatures.

It is never to be affixed till the commission is signed, because the signature which gives force and effect to the commission is conclusive evidence that the appointment is made.

As the duties of the government have expanded the impracticability of having the Seal of the United States attached by the State Department to all the commissions of officers who are under some other executive department, has been recognized by Congress by an Act of March 18, 1874, the commissions of postmasters were directed to be made out under the the seal of the Postoffice Department; an Act of March 3, 1875, placed the commissions of officers of the interior under that department, and by an Act of August 8, 1888, all judicial officers, marshals, and United States ..... officers were ordered to be appointed under the Seal of the Department of Justice. At the present time the Seal of the United States is affixed to the commissioners of all cabinet officers; and diplomatic and consular officers, who are nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate; all ceremonious communications from the President to the heads of foreign governments; all treaties, conventions, and formal agreements of the President with foreign powers; all pardons or commutations of sentence by the President to offenders who have been convicted before the courts of the United States; all proclamations by the President; all exequoturs to

foreign consular officers in the United States, who are appointed by the heads of the government which they represent; to warrants by the President to receive persons surrendered by foreign governments under extradition treaties; and to all miscellaneous commissions of civil officers appointed by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate, whose appointments are not now especially directed by law to be signed under different seal.

The Seal is generally affixed *en placard*, though sometimes *pendant*. In many countries at present, the authenticity of a treaty with another power is attested by a large pendant wax-seal, the cords which run through the paper of the treaty being carried through the wax; and as the wax would otherwise be quite likely to break, and the cord become detached, a metal box usually of gold or silver is used to contain the wax impression. Our own Great Seal was thus attached to treaties up to 1869, when the practice was finally abandoned. The impression at the present day is put upon the paper itself, with a thin white wafer, the same as it was affixed during the latter years of the Continental government.

GREAT SEAL ALTERED.

The Great Seal of the United States being used very frequently its wear of necessity is great, and several Secretaries of State had it retouched and corrected. Officially the Great Seal has been changed

twice, namely in Webster's term as Secretary of State and in Frelinghuysen's.

In 1841, during the administration of President Tyler, it was found by Webster, then Secretary of State, that the Seal was badly worn and beyond the engraver's power of redemption. The President then ordered that Webster see that a new Seal be engraved. The engraver it seems found it difficult to engrave the bundle of thirteen arrows, and with Webster's advice and consent agreed that six arrows would suffice. Just why Webster decided that the Seal should have six arrows, is not ascertainable, but it appears that the six meant to represent some special or particular governmental subject.

During the time of Webster the government had six leading heads, namely the Presidents cabinet. Webster thus intended each of these heads should be symbolized on the Great Seal by an arrow; hence in this order: Secretary of State, Secretary of Treasury, Secretary of War, Secretary of the Navy, Attorney General, and Postmaster General. Since Webster's time the cabinet has increased, having the additional advice of Vice President, Secretary of Interior, and Secretary of Agriculture.

The regular width of the red stripes on the shield was altered so as to make the white ones very narrow. Hence Webster illegally or rather presumptuously changed the Seal, and these unnecessary alterations

which he allowed were carelessly followed. We hope that the future will rectify the several uncalled for mistakes, and thus present the Seal in its original and highly appropriate form.

How could Webster permit the significant number of thirteen to be twice changed on the new Seal; firstly the arrows to six, and secondly the thirteen stripes on the shield. He certainly knew how dearly the American sires cherished the number thirteen. All through our story of the seal this number runs to the last page in an undercurrent, well defined. The colonists were so eager to represent, symbolize and emblemize the number thirteen, that an English Newspaper of 1779 had an article which strongly ridiculed the fondness for this number. It will be of interest to students of the Seal story to read this scrap of English envy since it states truth in an English way:

"*Thirteen* is a number peculiarly belonging to the rebels. A party of naval prisoners lately returned from Jersey say that the rations among the rebels are thirteen dried clams per day; that the titular Lord Stirling takes thirteen glasses of grog every morning, has thirteen enormous rum bunches on his nose, and that (when duly impregnated) he always makes thirteen attempts before he can walk; Mr. Washington had thirteen toes to his feet (the extra ones having grown since the Declaration of Independence), and

the same number of teeth in each jaw; that the Sachem Schuyler has a topknot of thirteen stiff hairs, which erect themselves on the crown of his head when he grows mad; that old Putnam had thirteen pounds of his posterior bit off in an encounter with a Connecticut bear ('twas there he lost the *balance* of his mind); that it takes thirteen paper dollars to equal one penny sterling; that Polly Wayne was just thirteen hours in subduing Stony Point, and as many seconds in leaving it; that a well-organized rebel household has thirteen children, all of whom expect to be generals and members of the high and mighty Congress of the 'thirteen United States, when they attain thirteen years; that Mrs. Washington has a mottled tomcat (which she calls in a complimentary way *Hamilton*) with thirteen yellow rings around his tail, and that his flaunting it suggested to the Congress the adoption of the same number of stripes for the rebel flag".

In 1885, during the administration of Chester A. Arthur, Mr. Frelinghuysen, the Secretary of State, found that the Great Seal was badly worn and beyond restoration. The Secretary consulted Mr. Arthur, who ordered that a new Seal be executed. Before making final arrangements with the U. S. engraving department, Mr. Frelinghuysen consulted several American authorities on the heraldry of the last Seal, and had three eminent students of armorial design designate how the Seal should be executed in

order to appear aesthetic, and conform to the laws of heraldry. The result of the investigation of these latent points brought forth a most perfect design for a Great Seal. Among the several improvements in the Frelinghuysen Seal we gladly mention the fol-

FIRST GREAT SEAL—1782.

(THOMSON'S.)

lowing: The head of the eagle is more natural; the olive-branch has olives and approaches nature; the shield is truly Norman and the dimensions changed from two and one half inches, as in the Webster Seal, to three inches as in the original Seal adopted in 1782.

It is with great reluctance that a suggestion relative to a future seal be given, since the present em-

blem of the nation is both beautiful and emblematic of all that is cherished by the truly American patriot; yet I believe that an idea which if executed would improve the Seal, is always acceptable. In the present Seal the numerical number — thirteen — as representative of the several original states occurs three times, namely: in the stars in the glory; the stripes on the shield; and the arrows in the eagle's sinister talon. Notwithstanding that the stars, stripes and arrows individually signify different ideas and sentiments, their number being similar — thirteen — it

SECOND GREAT SEAL—1841.
(WEBSTER'S.)

necessarily conveys the thought of repetition. Now the American flag and the Great Seal are virtually

coeval and this repetition of the number thirteen was also prominent in the original flag, namely, in the Stars and Stripes. This iteration in the flag

THIRD GREAT SEAL — 1885.
(FRELINGHUYSEN'S.)

was early noticed and an attempt was made to not only correct it, but the idea occurred that the thirteen original states were not the entire composition of our government and that new states which had come into the Union deserved some recognition on the nation's ensign. In brief, this same apparent mistake of not symbolizing or representing other sister states occurs

on the Great Seal. This can easily be rectified and yet be in accord with the original idea of th e designers,—that of representing the States joined in he Federal Union. The first attempt made to ac-

AUTHOR'S PROPOSED GREAT SEAL — '04.

knowledge the new States, as components of the nation, occurs in an act of Congress approved Jan. 13, 1794 and reads: "Be it enacted:—That from and

after the first day of May, Anno Domini, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, the Flag of the United States be fifteen stripes alternate red and white in a blue field." This flag answered well up to 1818, when the State of Illinois made her claim for statehood, and her entery into the Union necessitated a further change in the law creating our flag. Thus, in 1818 a new law was framed and passed which thoroughly covered the ground of state representation; this act read: "Be it enacted:—That from and after the fourth day of July next, the flag of the United States be thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white; that the Union be twenty stars, white in the blue field.

"And that on the admission of a 'new State' into the Union, one star be added to the Union of the flag; and that such an addition shall take effect on the fourth day of July next succeeding such admission. Hence under this enactment our present flag contains thirteen stripes, representing the thirteen colonies; and forty-four stars symbolizing the states now composing our nation. Our flag in this as in other particulars is fully explicit, while our Great Seal, a token of equal importance, still harbors a latent and unsatisfactory meaning to the thirty-one states admitted since the adoption of our nation's handimark. Now this injustice could be easily rectified and thus strengthen the significance of our Seal.

This desirable change could be accomplished by blazoning on the border or margin, the thirty-one stars in a circle. The objections to this alteration would be faint; first it would demand legal sanction in the way of law; second, it would necessitate a new seal on the admission of a state. The latter objection, though at present, strong would in a few years weaken, since within the next generation all territories will have become states; ordinary wear on the present Seal-die will obliterate the impression in about 1924, and this date will, we believe, find no territorial government on the Union map. Hence, all that would be necessary in 1924 to establish a seal such as our forefathers intended it to be would be found in an enactment as follows:

"Be it enacted:—That from and after the fourth day of July next (insert date)—the Great Seal of the United States shall consist:

"Arms—Paleways of thirteen pieces, argent and gules; and chief azure; the escutcheon on the breast of the American eagle displayed proper, holding in his dexter talon an olive-branch, and in his sinister talon a bundle of thirteen arrows, all proper and in his beak a scroll, inscribed with the motto, E PLURIBUS UNUM.

"For the crest—Over the head of the eagle, which appears above the escutcheon, a glory, or, breaking through a cloud proper, and surrounding thirteen

stars forming a constellation, argent and an azure field.

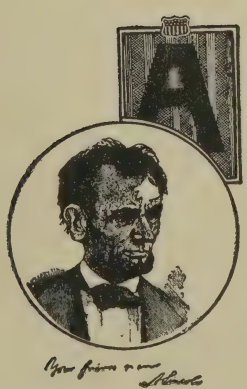
"Border— A star argent for every state in the Union exclusive of the original thirteen, completing the circle of unity."

CHAPTER XVI.

OUR GREAT PREMIERS.

"Thou too sail on, O Ship of State!
Sail on O Union, strong and great!
Humanity with all its fears
With all its hopes of future years
Is hanging breathless on thy fate.
Fear not each sudden sound and shock
'Tis of the wave and not the rock
'Tis but the flapping of the sail
And not a rent made by the gale."

—LONGFELLOW.



AFTER the creation of the Declaration of Independence, on July 4th 1776, the American colonies were much at a loss as to the code of laws that should be adopted for the government of the several provinces; for upwards of five years, executive powers, though very slight, were vested in Continental Congress, but this

body could accomplish but little since it was optional with a colony whether or not, to abide by the enactments of this Congress. However, in 1778, Articles of Confederation were adopted and this proved a grand step in the direction of nationality, since it gave Congress more definite powers and also created that body with partial authority. The new Confederation was far from being a strong and efficient government, yet it assured a better union, and it inspired the colonies to closer confederation; and it solicited confidence from foreign governments since the colonies styled themselves as "The United States of America." But the freedom and liberty of the young states was yet unsecured, since Mother England claimed them still, recognizing them only as Rebellious Colonies. Regardless of these soothing words from the mother, the colonies fought on, and on October 19th 1781, demanded, and received "the proud sword of England."

The war for Independence over, our national existence soon became a recognized fact in all the courts and governments, and immediately the triumphant Americans feeling their greatness, and also well knowing the weakness of their Articles of Confederation called fourth a Constitutional Convention, which met 1787, and drafted the present strong form of national government. Several years sped by ere the necessary number of states had ratified and

adopted the proposed constitution, and during this lapse of time, the Articles of Confederation were still the governing code.

Under the Confederation the Continental Congress, with its numerous and powerful committees, safely guided, and prepared the provinces, and states for the grand inheritance of National Life; perhaps no committee did more towards establishing our beloved institutions than the Committee on Foreign Affairs; which had charge of all the correspondence and important matters, relating to foreign nations or things, and transacted the most perplexing business at the close of the Revolution. In 1789, upon the inauguration of the new Constitutional Government this important office or bureau was without authority The talented John Jay, who was the Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Affairs, seeing that much vital business was still in the possession of the Committee, informed the then first Congress of the *defunct* department of Foreign Affairs, and requested that something be done relative to the pending official work. The new government immediately recognized the use and necessity of continuing this important branch of government, and immediately created our State Department.

By the law enacted by Congress, the head of the department was called Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and the office, the Department of Foreign Affairs;

but a few months later the names were changed to Department of State, and Secretary of State, and have continued so to the present writing. There was great debate in the House of Representatives over the bill creating this executive office. The opposition was not aimed at the portfolio, but at a clause in the bill empowering the President to remove, whenever he chose, the Secretary of State; but notwithstanding the stong opposition, the bill became a law, giving the President power to discharge the Secretary at will.

As the Chief Executive of the Nation, could not for want of time, attend to all the details of business belonging to his high office, he according to Congressional enactment, appoints secretaries, and clerks, to various offices, to discharge the duties of the different departments of public business. And in accordance with the practice of using simple and plain terms, in governmental matters, the head of the cabinet instead of being called Premier, Minister or Diplomat, he is known as Secretary. The Secretary is subordinate to the President and is appointed to act in the name, and under the direction of the President.

At the same session of Congress, which created the office of Secretary of State the members created four additional executive departments, or cabinet positions, namely: Secretary of War; Secre-

tary of the Treasury, Secretary of the Navy and Attorney General. But the Secretary of State is considered the dignified end of the Presidential cabinet and as such while in cabinet session sits at the right hand of the Chief Executive. The Secretary of State is an office usually filled by the most eminent statesman of the nation, and is selected to the high office on account of special adaptation by experience, acquirements, and capacity, as well as harmony with the general policies of the administration. The Secretary of State is by virtue of his office the chief adviser, and safest counsel of the Executive.

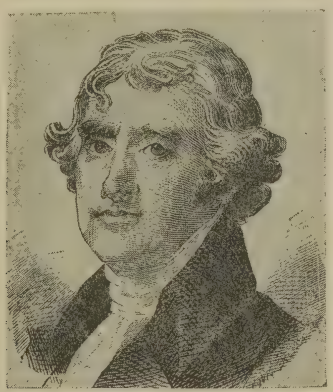
The amount of work which the Secretary is heir to is vast, and he has the honor of being "the busiest man in the administration." His duties are extensive, having charge of such business or diplomatic matters as may arise between this and foreign governments, The Great Seal of the United States is in his keeping, and it is his duty to affix the Seal to all such civil commissions given to the officers of the United States, who are appointed by the President and senate or President alone. He also affixes the Seal to proclamations and laws. Under the supervision and control of the President, he conducts the correspondence with, and gives instructions to all the United States foreign Ministers, Counsels, Commissioner, Agents or Inspectors of the government abroad; and attends to all foreign relations as shall be

committed to him by Congress and the President. In addition to these multifarious duties connected with the Foreign Relations, he is properly the Secretary General of the Legislative branch of the government; it is probably through this latter connection that led to his being called Secretary of State, rather than Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

We as patriotic Americans are deeply interested in our administrative secretaries, and will briefly review their records, and thus further our acquaintance with these master minds of our grand republic.

Under the government of the Articles of Confederation, the foreign correspondence, as we have learned, was in the hands of a committee known as the Committee of Foreign Affairs. Shortly after the inauguration of Washington, he offered John Jay the choice of any office within the gift of the Executive; Washington believed that Mr. Jay would choose the office of Secretary of State, since he was still filling temporarily that office in the defunct Confederate Department of Foreign Affairs. But contrary to the President's expectations Mr. Jay selected the Chief Justiceship, and Washington then turned in search of the ablest American, for the newly created State Department. His mind at once carried him to Paris, where in the court of France, Thomas Jefferson was officiating as American Minister. George Washington in a personal letter to Jefferson defines the important nomination as follows:—"In the selection of

characters to fill the important offices of the government in the United States, I was naturally led to contemplate the talents and disposition which I know you to possess, and entertain for the service of your country, and without being able to consult your inclination or divine any knowledge of your intentions from your letters, either to myself or to any others of your friends, I was determined as well by motives of

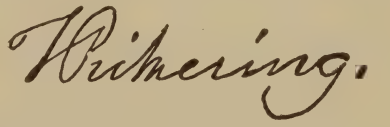


private regard as a conviction of public propriety, to nominate you for the Department of State, which under its present organization, involves many of the most interesting objects of the executive authority."

Jefferson accepted the nomination which had been gracefully tendered him and thus became America's first Premier. So far as Washington's first Cabinet was concerned it was not a happy expedient for two more irreconcilable political thinkers than Jefferson and Hamilton never met around a council board. As Jefferson afterward said: "We were pitted against each other like game cocks." Randolph, the Attorney-General, sided with Jefferson, while Knox, the Secretary of War, voted with Hamilton, thus leaving Washington to decide between.

Jefferson's position in the Cabinet soon became irksome to himself, and at last, Jan. 1, 1794, he resigned. On his retirement, Washington appointed Edmund

Randolph, who took charge of State matters Jan. 2, 1794. In the latter part of Washington's administration he became too free with State secrets, and, being almost implicated in a bribe, relative to the French Government, Washington requested his resignation.



The next Secretary appointed was Timothy Pickering of Pennsylvania. He entered upon the duties of

helmsman Dec. 10, 1795, and continued in that capacity to the end of the Washington administration, March 4, 1797.

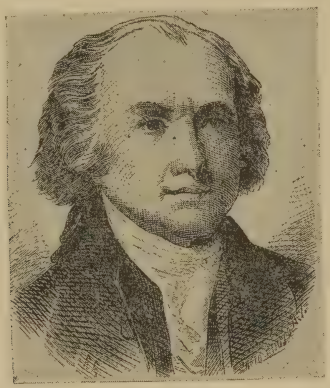
When John Adams succeeded to the Presidency he retained Washington's Cabinet, hence Timothy Pickering was renominated to the State portfolio; but unhappily for Adams he did not possess Washington's authority over the Cabinet. Not one of the Cabinet members but considered himself quite as powerful as the President, and so far as party fealty was concerned Hamilton was the leader rather than Adams. Naturally enough this led to a Cabinet explosion, and in May, 1800, Pickering was summarily dismissed,

and the eminent John Marshall, of Virginia, May 13, 1800, took to the wheel of State, and served till the close of Adams' term.

In 1801, when Jefferson fell heir to the executive chair, he made a wise selection in nominating the bright young Virginian, James Madison, Secretary of the Department of State. He held the office eight years through troublous times, for England seemed bent on provoking America to War, which was, however, avoided through the diplomatic art of Madison.

Madison had filled the office of Secretary of State with such satisfaction that the people expressed their approval by elevating him to the Presidency. Polit-

ical exigencies required him to appoint Robert Smith, of Maryland, as his chief adviser. This man was con-



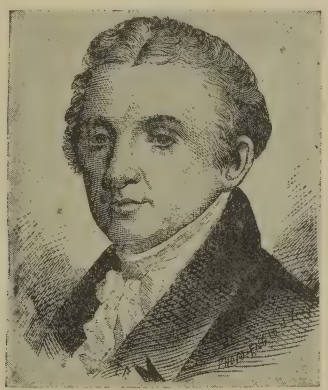
James Madison

nected with a powerful family, politically speaking, but of ability Robert himself had none. He is, in fact,

Robert Smith

the single instance in the history of the department where a man not a statesman has been called to fill

the office of American Premier. For two years Madison bore with him and discharged the duties as President and Secretary, but finally, overborne by the weight of his labors, Madison obliged Smith to resign.

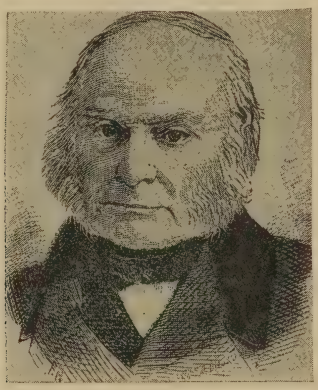


James Monroe

His successor was the talented James Monroe, of Virginia. Monroe held the position from April 2, 1811, till the close of Madison's term, thus giving wonderful service during the second war with England in 1812.

Secretary Monroe now became President and as his "right-hand man" selected John Q. Adams of Massachusetts and he took the ship of state in charge

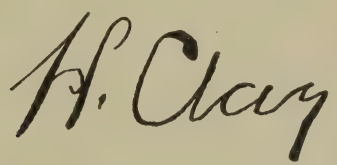
March 5, 1817. Mr. Adams' thorough knowledge of diplomatic matters did much toward establishing the character of the United States as a Nation of first-class power. It was through the efforts of Adams



that the "Monroe doctrine," which was written by himself, was enunciated, whereby it was declared that so far as the Western Continent was concerned no European interference in any of the local governments would be permitted. He remained with President Monroe till 1825, when the latter's term ended.

John Q. Adams came to the Presidency next, and

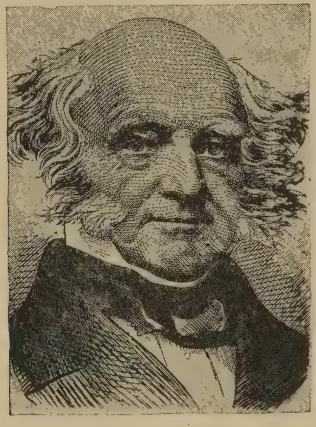
in a perfectly legal manner, but in the popular mind his title was clouded. Jackson had received a plurality of both the popular and electoral votes, but when the election was devolved upon the House of Representatives, that body, voting by States, chose Adams, that result being brought about through the influence



of Henry Clay. One needs but give a half wide-awake guess to determine that Clay of Kentucky would act as "Seal-keeper" under Adams. This appointment gave rise to the cry of "bargain and corruption," and the words pursued Adams and Clay in all political matters in the future.

In 1828 Jackson was chosen as Chief Executive of the land, and anon began to demonstrate his authority. "Old Hickory" was a hard man to get along with, and his many Cabinet changes go to prove this to be a fact. He appointed M. Van Buren of New York as pilot of the ship of state, since it was through the shrewd political tactics of Van Buren that Jackson was elected. It was from this New York politician that Jackson learned how to reward friends and punish enemies, through the spoils of office. As a diplomat Van Buren ranked low.

In 1831 Van Buren resigned in order to look after "political fences" in the Empire State. Edward Liv-



M. Van Buren

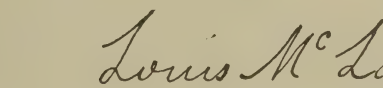
ingston of Louisiana, May 24, was initiated into the mysteries of the State Department. Mr. Livingston

Edw. Livingston

drew some of Jackson's ablest state papers, the greatest of which was the proclamation against nullifica-

tion in South Carolina. Jackson dashed the paper off in his impulsive manner and Livingston elaborated the argument and gave it finish and dignity. He remained in the Cabinet till May, 1833, when Jackson appointed him Minister to France.

Louis McLane of Delaware, May 29, 1833, succeeded to the State portfolio by promotion, having been at the time of his appointment Secretary of the Treasury. He served nine months as Secretary and



gave way to John Forsyth of Georgia, who was appointed June 27, 1834, and remained in the Cabinet till 1837, the expiration of Jackson's term.

In 1837 the smooth and astute New York politician Van Buren was elected President of the United States.

He retained John Forsyth as the guide of State. Nothing of diplomatic interest occurred during Van Buren's administration, save the efforts made to annex Texas to the Union. On account of the financial crisis during this administration the United States foreign credit was slightly disturbed, but through

the cautious diplomatic art of Forsyth the Nation managed to paddle along with but few shocks.

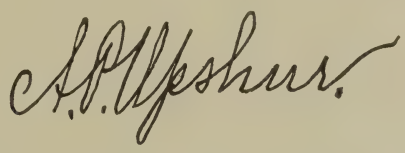
William Henry Harrison was the next to occupy the White House and he gathered about his council

board a remarkably talented Cabinet, the head of which was the ambitious Daniel Webster of Massachusetts. A month subsequent to his inauguration found Harrison a resident of the "city of the dead," with the Vice-President left for Presidential succession.

John Tyler retained the Cabinet as he found it, but it soon turned out that Tyler was not a Whig, nor at all inclined to carry out Whig policies. This led to a Cabinet explosion, all the Cabinet resigning except Webster, who on account of negotiating a treaty with England relative to the Northwest boundary remained, "a most disagreeable position," as he remarked. Matters in the Cabinet grew worse, and in 1843 Tyler forced him to resign. President Tyler filled the portfolio May 29, 1843, with Hugh S. Le-

garé of South Carolina. Mr. Legaré was a member of the Cabinet at the time of his promotion, having

had the Attorney-Generalship. He held the office but a few months, having contracted a severe cold at the Bunker Hill celebration of 1843, in consequence of which June 10, 1843, he died. The State portfolio was immediately filled July 24, 1843, by the nomination of Abel P. Upshur, of Virginia. Shortly after having entered into the duties of his office he came to a



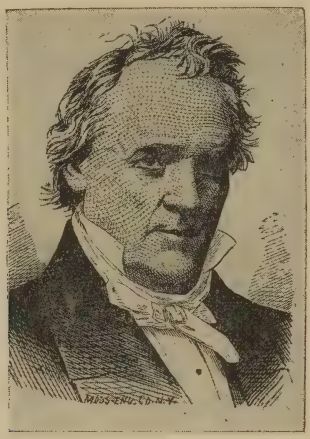
tragic death by the explosion of the Princeton, Feb. 29, 1843. President Tyler was noted for having surprises for his people, but they were generally of a disagreeable nature. Upon the death of Secretary Upshur, he named the "Leader of Nullification" to lead a supposed Whig administration.

John C. Calhoun of South Carolina seized the helm

of state March 6, 1844. During his brief stay in the department he hardly acquainted himself with the routine of his office.

March 4, 1845, James K. Polk was sworn as President. James Buchanan of Pennsylvania was his choice as Secretary of State. He was a brilliant

scholar and had had extensive experience in diplomatic matters. He steered the Polk administration to



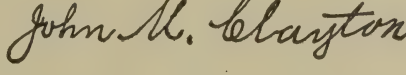
James Buchanan

advantage. For a few weeks the Department of State was in the hands of John Nelson, of Maryland.

John Nelson

The next occupant of the Executive mansion was Gen. Zachary Taylor. The President nominated J. M. Clayton of Delaware as the head of his Cabinet.

The President having died July 9, 1850, Mr. Clayton resigned from the Cabinet and became Senator for his State.

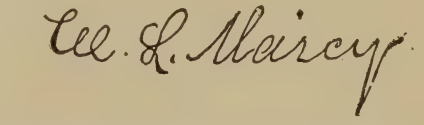


President Fillmore at once appointed an entirely new Cabinet, and placed at the head of it the tried and experienced Daniel Webster, who served in this same capacity under Harrison and Tyler. Mr. Webster's diplomatic knowledge was exceedingly extensive, and the amount of work he accomplished can hardly be estimated. He was a faithful servant, and would have continued as Secretary of State had he not been seriously injured by being thrown from his carriage. He resigned from the Cabinet. President Fillmore would not accept the resignation, but the death of Webster in October, 1852, ended his Cabinet work. The remainder of the President's term the office of Secretary of State was

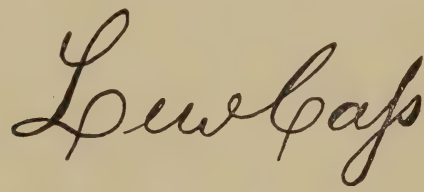
filled by Edward Everett of Massachusetts, having been appointed December 6, 1852.

Franklin Pierce succeeded Fillmore to the Presidency, and he appointed William L. Marcy of New York as his adviser on state matters. This statesman remained in the office during the entire term of Pierce and served

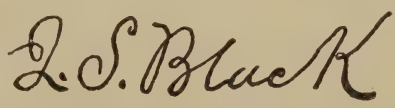
as a conscientious diplomat, having been neither radical nor conservative.



During the next four years, while Buchanan was President, Lewis Cass of Michigan was the Secretary. The questions of the time were for the most part domestic and no particular feature marked the diplomacy of the



administration. Mr. Cass resigned near the close of Buchanan's term. The President appointed December 17, 1860, as his successor Jeremiah S. Black of Penn-



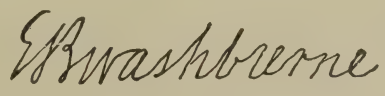
sylvania. He remained to the end of the administration.

Following the careless Buchanan came the great and grand man, Abraham Lincoln. William H. Seward conducted the diplomatic affairs of the government through the period covered by the Civil War, and he most decid-

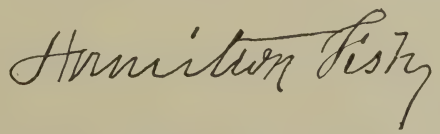
edly demonstrated his ability and served loyally. When Lincoln was murdered he intended resigning, but was cautioned not to do so. Vice-President Johnson on tak-

ing the Presidency requested Seward to remain in the Cabinet, which the latter did.

When Gen. U. S. Grant became the Nation's ruler he appointed E. B. Washburne to take the reins of government of state. What the purpose of this appointment was, unless to give Washburne a chance to reward a

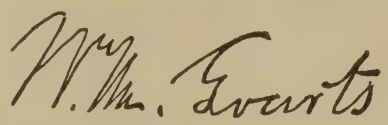


large number of political friends by diplomatic appointments, is hard to understand. Mr. Washburne held the office precisely six days and during that week made innumerable consular and other appointments. Hamilton Fish of New York succeeded Washburne as Secretary March 11, 1869, and continued to be Grant's chief ad-



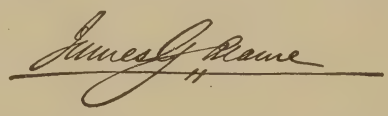
viser through both his terms. The "Washington Treaty," which resulted in the settlement of the "Alabama claims," was the important diplomatic event of the administration.

When R. B. Hayes entered the President's mansion he appointed W. M. Evarts of New York to the dignified end of the Cabinet. Mr. Evarts was chief among the



eminent lawyers to establish the title of Hayes. Nothing of diplomatic interest occurred during his several years in the Department of State.

In 1880 J. A. Garfield became the Chief Executive and he selected as his "right-hand man" the most distinguished American of the age, James G. Blaine of Maine.



He immediately demonstrated true American courage, and hardly had he thoroughly laid his plans when by an assassin's bullet his chief was ushered to another world. Mr. Blaine then resigned his high office, as he was not of the same political mind as the incumbent President.

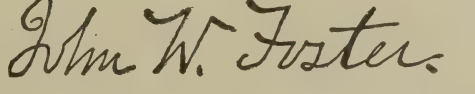
President Arthur appointed to the State portfolio Mr. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen of New Jersey, his commission taking effect December 12, 1881. Nothing un-

usual occurred to mar the general routine of the department and he remained during the remainder of the executive term.

Grover Cleveland became President in 1885 and chose as American Premier Mr. Thomas F. Bayard of New

Jersey. Few matters engaged his attention—the fishery disputes chiefly. He served four years.

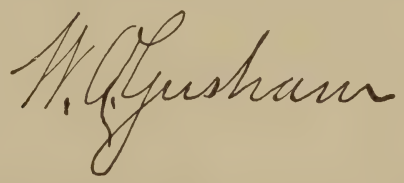
In 1889 Benjamin Harrison took the oath as President and appointed James G. Blaine to the helm of the ship of state. Many perplexing questions came before him and he carefully and satisfactorily adjusted all. He resigned from the difficult post late in the term, and now



lives in the memory of all who admire fearless patriotism. His successor was John W. Foster of Indiana, a distinguished lawyer, of profound knowledge of the laws of nations. He occupied many positions in the diplomatic register of the United States, having been minister to Mexico, Russia, Spain and special commissioner on a number of important international negotiations. He served as secretary of state until close of the Harrison term. His acquaintance with the Bering Sea difficulties

impelled his appointment as the government agent before the Arbitration Tribunal at Paris. His fame rests not alone on his familiarity with international law, but his work, "A Century of American Diplomacy," has placed him among the famous authors of legal subjects.

Saturday, March 4, Grover Cleveland took the reins



of government, having appointed Walter Q. Gresham as his premier. Mr. Gresham's political views had changed so materially from republicanism that his appointment by President Grover Cleveland was not a surprise. He held the office until his death, May 28, 1895.

On June 7, 1895, Mr. Cleveland filled the position of Secretary of State by appointing Mr. Richard Olney, famous jurist and diplomat. Mr. Olney was promoted

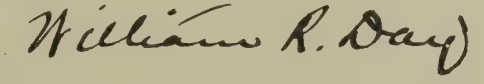
from the head of the Treasury Department. His cautious and conservative actions in a number of international troubles demonstrated the wisdom of President

Cleveland. Mr. Olney's distinction rests more particularily on his tact in the Anglo-Venezuelan entanglement. The fearless Americanism of Mr. Cleveland promptly directed a most praiseworthy course.

In the fall of 1896 a fierce political battle between W. J. Bryan and William McKinley resulted in the election of the latter.

The affairs of state were placed in the hands of John Sherman, Senator from Ohio, on March 5, 1897. He had served in the Cabinet of President Hayes as Secretary of the Treasury and was familiar with the great responsibilities of a Cabinet position. His record as Secretary of State contains few striking events, the Bering Sea treaty being possibly the most important. On account of age and illness he resigned the Secretaryship.

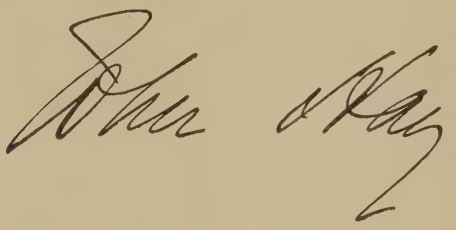
On April 26, 1898, Hon. William Rufus Day, eminent attorney, was elevated from assistant Secretary of State to the head of the department, and during his brief stay in this capacity had charge of the delicate diplomatic



affairs relating to the Spanish-American difficulties. He remained in the office until the negotiations of the protocol of peace, when he was appointed chief of the United States Peace Commission. Later appointed a member of supreme court.

President McKinley on September 20, 1898, appointed the trained diplomat, John Hay, distinguished lawyer,

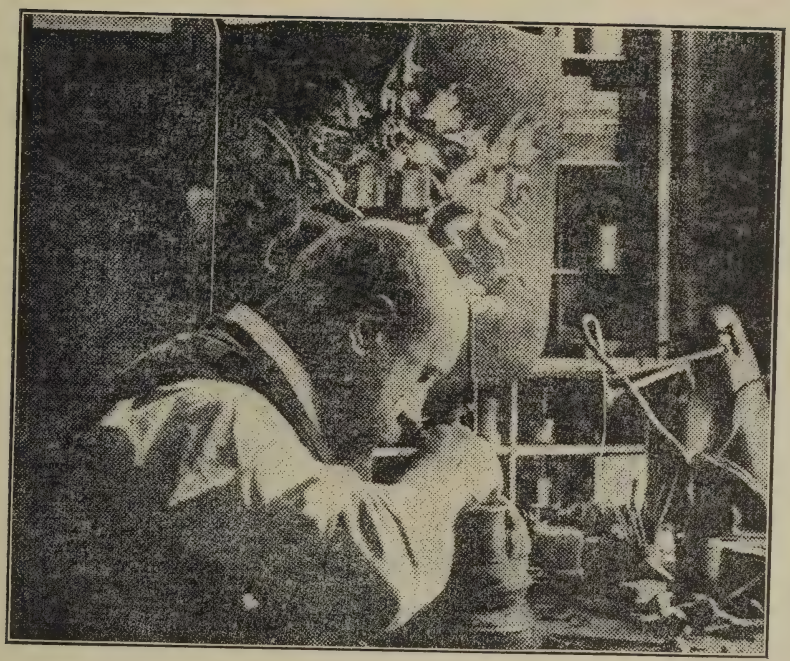
author and historian, Secretary of State. His experience at the legations at Paris, Vienna, Madrid and London thoroughly fitted Mr. Hay for the difficult tasks of



state; besides he had in his younger days served as private secretary to Abraham Lincoln, and in 1879 acted as Assistant Secretary of State. In these schools he mastered the art of diplomacy, and he was fully prepared to cope with the numerous complexities growing out of the Spanish-American war. He was obliged on account of our new possessions to establish new legations and subordinate charges and assume greater cares. When President Roosevelt became the people's administrator he retained Mr. Hay as Secretary of State, and the typical American foreign policy of our president finds complete expression under the present head of the department of state.

The Chinese disturbances he brought to a happy close and the Venezuelan difficulties received his keen judgment. He also negotiated terms of settlement with Turkey and fashioned the American spirit in the Hay-Pauncefote treaty.

PART II



MAX GEITLER ENGRAVING THE NEW GREAT SEAL.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON

June 31, 1904.

B. J. Cigrand, Esquire,

1493 Humboldt Boulevard,

Chicago, Illinois.

My dear Sir:

I thank you for the photograph of the old seal press and case.

The new seal was completed in January, 1904, and was first used on the commission of Edwin V. Morgan, as Consul at Dalny, Manchuria, on January 27, 1904.

The colored prints of the seal were made for the United States Embassies, Legations and Consulates.

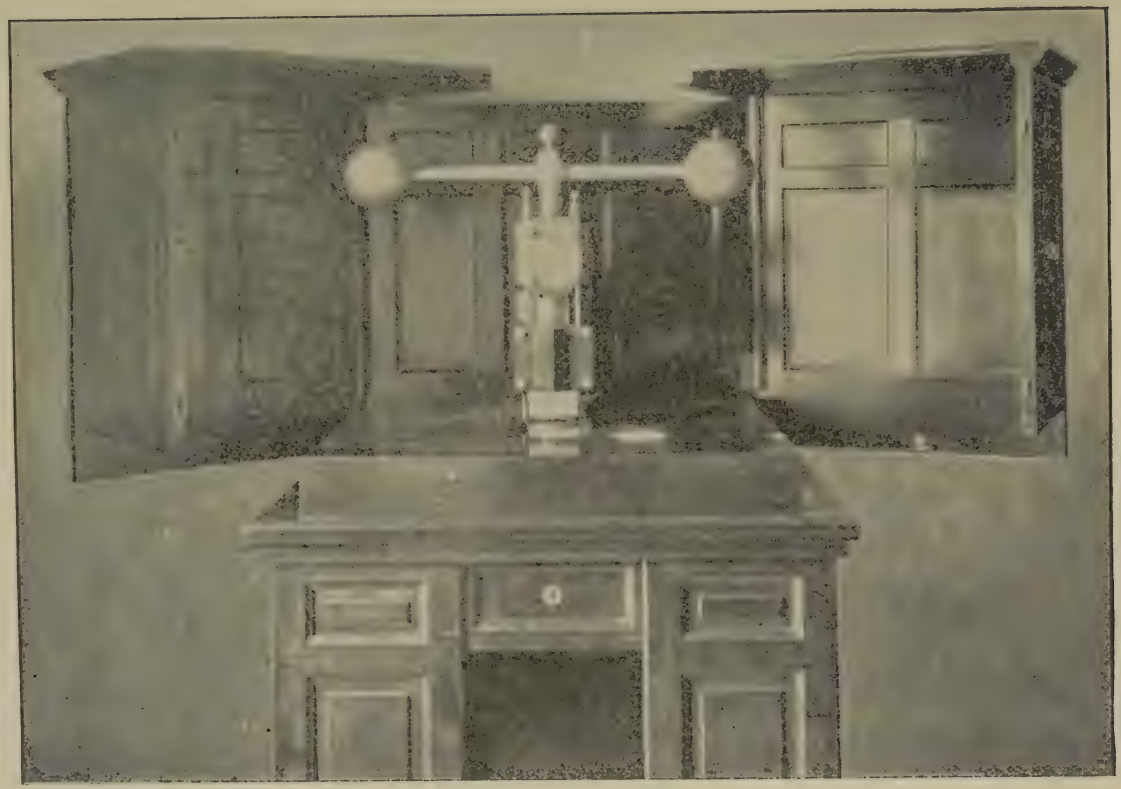
Very truly yours,

Robert Brent Mosher

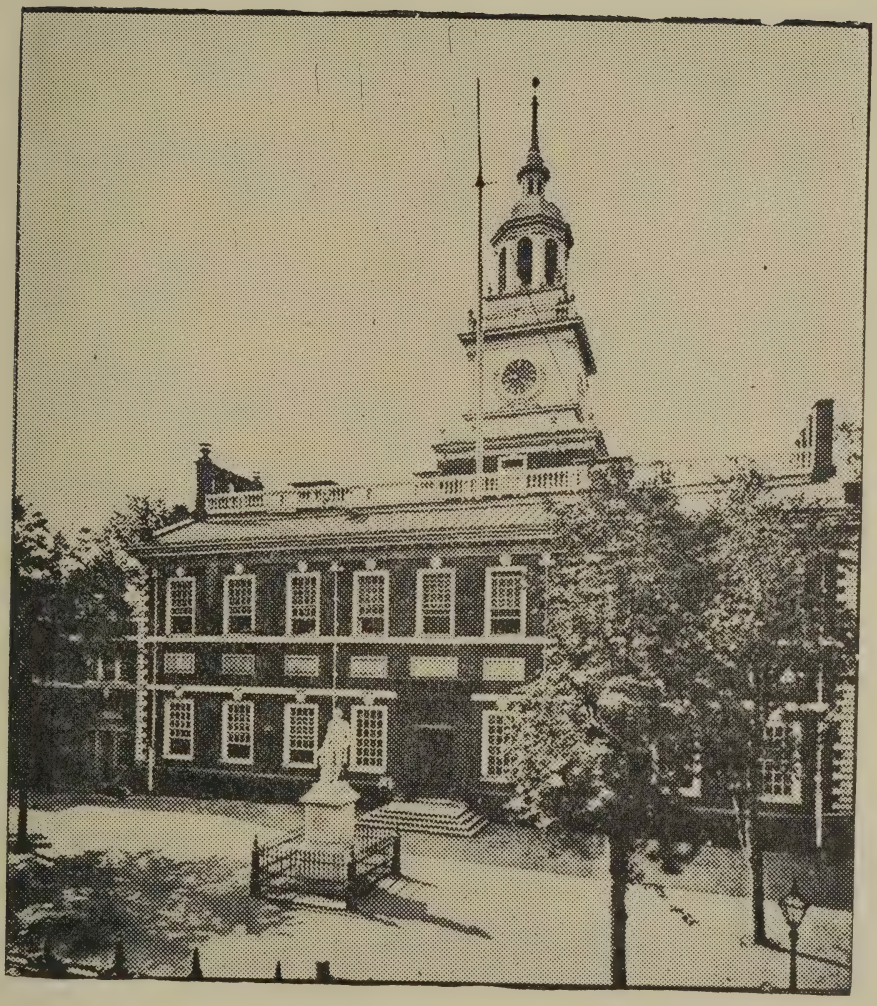
Chief, Bureau of Appointments.

E PLURIBUS UNUM

ANNUIT CŒPTIS
MDCCLXXVI.
NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM.



GREAT SEAL IN CASE.



INDEPENDENCE HALL. (Birthplace of Great Seat.)

WASHINGTON STATUE—RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

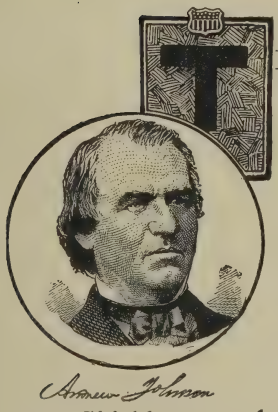
(Pattern of Confederate Seal.)

CHAPTER XVII.

THE AMERICAN SHIELD.

The shield of our nation bring hither
  And protect fair Columbia's true sons,
May the laurel leaves round it ne'er wither
  To give rest to our sabers and guns,
Should a foreign foe ere on us call
  Our Liberty and Union to sever,
May our arrows so fast on him fall
  That his fate be an example forever.
Then let us resolve 'ere to save
  This red, this white, this blue,
And through all coming storms be brave
  That Liberty may ne'er say Adieu.

—AUTHOR.



THE shield adopted on our national arms, is of the Norman pattern and is according to the laws of æsthesia, perfect, and in heraldry it is considered the most symmetrical as well as the most admirably adapted one to receive simple charges.

We have found that all the submitted designs of Seals containing shields, had this Norman Shield grace their design; Du Simitiere was the first to use it, and with but two exceptions it followed through all the subsequent propositions; but in the main the designers differed as to the heraldic devices blazoned

on this favorite shield. On the adopted shield the three cherished colors of America are found, namely, red, white and blue, in allusion to the American standard—the Stars and Stripes.

The history and origin of our spangled banner, which is represented in the arms of our country, is thoroughly imbibed with interesting anecdotes and data. The officially recorded history of the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the flag of the Thirteen United Colonies is concise and pointed. The entire official information upon this most interesting subject is contained in one sentence of the Journal of the Continental Congress, and it reads as follows: *"Resolved, That the flag of the Thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, and that the Union be thirteen white stars in a blue field representing a new constellation."*

This resolution was passed by Congress, at Philadelphia, on June 14, 1777. It was nearly a year after the Declaration of Independence, and a year and a half after the meeting of the Franklin Committee on the flag, of which we will soon hear.

In the following pages we will trace the many different claims as to its legitimate source, and in doing so let us begin with the most plausible theoretical origin first, and the least reliable or least authentic last; thus in all making a brief yet very complete record of the ensign of the Union of States.

There are usually in present time histories of the flag but three supposed origins given, yet in the Story of the Seal where special research as to American emblems devices and tokens is afforded, we trace the flag to a possible origin from one of nine suppositious sources;

these many sources may start some of my readers thinking on the subject, and to gratify their anxious minds they may turn to investigate, and probably ultimately solve the mysterious origin.

First Theoretical Origin. The origin of the Ameri-

PRESENT GREAT SEAL (AMERICAN SHIELD).

can Flag.—The Star Spangled Banner has been made the subject of much discussion, especially so since it was not a creation, but, on the contrary, a growth, or evolution from other devices and ensigns.

The colonists up to the time of the Revolution still in allegiance to the English government, retained the standards of Mother England, with the addition of some local

emblem which was thereon inscribed as a distinctive feature. And not until the period approaching the revolt does there seem to have been any attention paid to the subject of independent standards by the several colonies, which, when the first movement toward separation from the Mother country began, were of various devices, and many had inscribed upon them sentiments that stimulated American patriotism and portrayed to England what would take place if colonial liberties were curtailed.

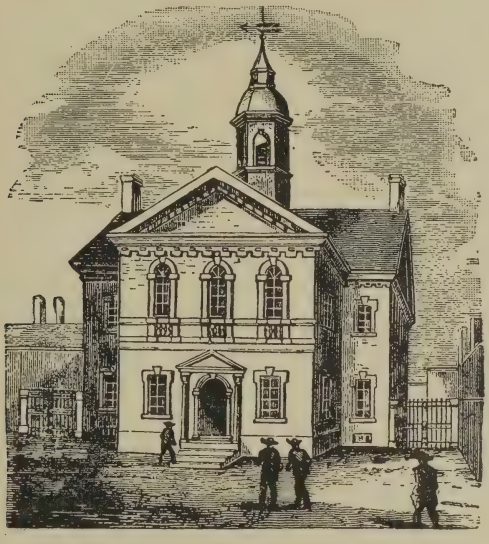
Among these patriotic sparks we find mottoes like the following:

"Liberty, Property and No Stamps."
"Liberty Born 1620; *Died* 1765."
"The King, Pitt and Liberty."
"Liberty and Independence."
"Liberty or Death."
"Come if You Dare."
"An Appeal to Heaven."
"For Liberty We Strive."
"For Prosperity We Bleed."
"Unite or Die."
"Liberty and Union."

Various as were their mottoes, so were also the tinctures of their ensigns; thus among them were yellow, blue, scarlet, crimson, white, black, orange, red; even green fields.

But immediately after the skirmish at Lexington and the battle of Bunker Hill the American spirit was aroused in the colonies and on the arrival of several British regiments the storm of indignation and rebellion awakened

and spread to the hearts of the liberty-loving Americans, and kindled within their bosoms an anxiety to die rather than to be defeated in their attempt to foster their liberties. From all directions men flew to arms, and in a few



CARPENTER HALL, PHILADELPHIA.

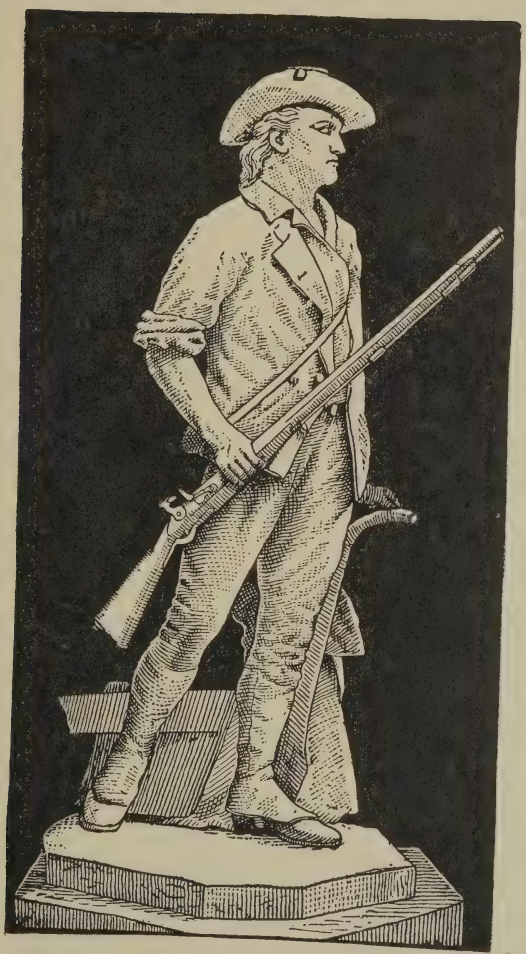
weeks a large patriotic army invaded Boston and threatened the British with destruction. The incongruous material which composed the American army was yet thoroughly unorganized and undisciplined, and in consequence Congress, on July 12, 1775, in Carpenter Hall elected George Washington commander-in-chief, and he immediately, under the escort of the Philadelphia Light Horse, repaired to Cambridge near Boston and took command of

the miscellaneous body of men, and set about preparing for action. One of the first things that occupied Washington's mind after being satisfied that the drill was complete was to have his military secretary, Col. Joseph Reed, write the following letter to influential men at Philadelphia:

"Please fix upon some particular color for a *Flag,* and a signal by which our vessels may know one another. What do you think of a flag with a white ground, a tree in the middle, the motto, *Appeal to Heaven?* This is the Flag of our floating batteries."

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Accordingly, late in 1775, pursuant with Washington's request, the Continental Congress appointed Benjamin Franklin, Mr. Lynch and Mr. Harrison a Committee of Conference, to have the subject of a colonial flag under consideration. The Committee immediately journeyed to Cambridge, where Washington was in camp, there to consult with him concerning the work in hand. The Committee arrived in camp December 13, 1775, and some American patriot tendered the distinguished Committee a reception, and in the evening General Washington and the Committee had the pleasure of partaking of a delicious repast. At the table the Committee made the acquaintance of an aged and talented gentleman, who was familiarly known as the Professor, and this old sage proved to the Committee to be a valuable addition of general knowledge. By request of Dr. Franklin and the approval of General Washington, "the Professor" was respectfully invited to meet with the Committee that evening, and lend to the American Colonies the benefit of his presence and counsel. It had already been arranged that the comman-



MINUTE MEN, '76.

der-in-chief, the worthy *host* and *hostess* would also attend the Committee meeting as honorary members.

The Committee, composed of these seven persons, namely, Dr. Franklin, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Harrison, General Washington, the Professor, the host and his wife, the latter acting as secretary of the Committee.

On the same afternoon Dr. Franklin and "the Professor" took a long walk together, and in confidence discussed the question of the flag to some extent. "The Professor" and Franklin that afternoon suggested a device which highly pleased the Committee, and on their return to their worthy host it was agreed that "the professor" submit to the Committee that evening the device.

Evening arrived and all were promptly on time. Dr. Franklin opened the session with a few remarks, in which he informed the others present that "the Professor" would address them on the subject of a new flag, and at this the "learned Philadelphian" took the hand and ushered forth "the Professor," who, in substance, said:

"Comrad Americans:—We are assembled here to devise and suggest the design for a new flag, which will represent at once the principles and determinations of the oppressed colonies to unite in demanding and securing justice from the Government to which they still owe recognized allegiance. We are not, therefore, expected to design or recommend a flag which will represent a new Government or an independent nation, but one which simply represents the principles that even Kings owe something of justice to their loyal subjects. This, I say, is what we are expected to do, because this is the publicly announced, as well as the honestly entertained, intent of the great majority of the people of these colon-

ies, as well as their representatives in Congress and their soldiers in the field. This is unquestionably true *now*; for the sun of our political aim, like the sun in the heavens, is very low in the horizon—just now approaching the winter colitis, which it will reach very soon. But as the sun rises from his grave in Capricorn, mounts toward his resurrection in Aries and passes onward and upward to his glorious culmination in Cancer, so will our political sun rise and continue to increase in power, in light and in glory, and the exalted sun of summer will not have gained his full strength of heat and power in the starry Lion, until our Colonial sun will be in its glorious exaltation, demanding a place in the governmental firmament along side of, co-ordinate with, and in nowise subordinate to any other sun of any other nation upon earth.

"We are now semi-self-acknowledged Colonies—independencies of Great Britain, which Government we as loyal subjects humbly sue for justice. We will ere long be a self-declared, independent nation, bestowing upon ourselves the justice for which we now vainly sue. We must therefore design and recommend a flag which will now recognize our loyalty to Great Britain, and at the same time announce our earnest and united suit and demand for our rights as British subjects. These demands will, of course, in the future, as in the past, be neglected or denied. Our justice-demanding and our freedom-loving companions will soon learn that there is no hope for us as village colonists, and that we can secure the rights we now contend for—as well as many more, and more to be prized rights—only as the loyal

and united citizens of a free and independent American nation.

"General Washington here, is a British subject, aye, he is a British soldier, and he is in command of British troops, and they are only attempting to enforce their rights as loyal subjects of the British crown. But General Washington will soon forswear all allegiance to everything foreign, and he will ere many months appear before his own people—the people of his colonies—and before the world as the General commanding the armies of a free and united people, organized into a new and independent nation.

"The flag which we now recommend must be one designed and adapted to meet the inevitable, and soon to be accomplished change of allegiance. The flag now adopted must be one that will testify our present loyalty as English subjects; and it must be one easily modified—but needing no radical change—to make it announce and represent the new nation which is already gestating in the womb of time, and which will come to birth—and that not prematurely, but fully developed and ready for change into independent life—before the sun in its next summer's strength ripens our next harvest.

"The field of our flag must therefore be an entirely new one. For this there are two reasons, either one of which is amply sufficient why it should be so. First, the field must be new because it will soon represent a new nation. Second, the field must be one hitherto unused as a national flag, because it will represent an entirely new principle in Government—*the equal rights of man as man.*

"While the field of our flag must be new in the details of its designs, it need not be entirely new in its ele-

ments. It is fortunate for us that there is already in use a flag with which the English government is familiar, and which it has not only recognized, but also protected, for more than a half century, the design of which can be easily modified, or rather extended, so as to most admirably suit our purpose. I refer to the flag of the English East India Company, which is one with a field of alternate longitudinal red and white stripes, and having the cross of St. George for a Union. You see it has on it the same number of stripes as the Philadelphia Light Horse troops, which escorted General Washington to Duty, and thus we would be adopting a purely American device.

"I therefore suggest for your consideration a flag with a field composed of thirteen equally wide longitudinal alternate red and white stripes, and with the Union Flag of England for a Union.

"Such a flag can readily be explained to the masses to mean as follows:

" 'The Union Flag of the Mother Country is retained as the Union of our new flag to announce that the colonies are loyal to the just and legitimate sovereignty of the British Government—

" 'The thirteen stripes will at once be understood to represent the thirteen colonies; their equal width will typify the equal rank, rights and responsibilities of the colonies. The union of the stripes in the field of our flag will announce the unity of interests and the corporative union of efforts which the colonies recognize and put forth in their common course. The white stripes will signify that we consider our demands just and reasonable, and that we will seek to secure our rights through

peaceable, intelligent and statesmanlike means, if they prove at all possible; and the red stripes at the top and bottom of our flag will declare that *first* and *last* and *always* we have the determination, the enthusiasm and the power to use force, whenever we deem force necessary. The alternation of the red and white stripes will suggest that our reasons for all demands will be intelligent and forcible, and that our force in securing our rights will be just and reasonable. All this is in strict accordance with the present public sentiment in the colonies, for, as I have already said, leaders of public opinion desire a removal of grievances and rectification of wrongs, through a fuller recognition of their rights as British subjects; and few of them desire, and very few of them expect—at this time—any complete severance of their present political and dependent relations with the English Government.'

"There are other weightier and eternal reasons for a flag having the field I suggest, but it will be time enough to consider them when in the near future we, or our successors, are considering, not a temporary flag for associated and dependent colonies, but a permanent standard for a united and independent nation.

"Thanking you one and all for your complimentary courtesy and for your patient attention, I submit this miniature drawing of the suggestive flag for your intelligent consideration."

The remarks of the Professor made a most profound impression, and the design which he submitted was in every particular satisfactory to everyone present. It was enthusiastically indorsed, General Washington and Doctor Franklin giving it especial approval and cheerful praise.

It was formally and unanimously adopted; shortly before midnight the committee adjourned. Thus the 13th of December, 1775, these five witnessed the presentation, consideration and adoption of the only official flag of the American Colonies, and the extreme probability is that until that time an American flag with a field of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, had never been seen in the American colonies.

COLONISTS VOLUNTEERING.

There is no record of any Congressional action upon the report of this Committee.

The designed flag was, however, adopted by General Washington as the universal flag and recognized standard of the Colonial Army and Navy.

Washington at once ordered a full-sized garrisoned flag to be speedily made, in strict accordance with the drawing presented by "the Professor."

On January 2, 1776, at Cambridge, in the presence of the militia, with the assistance of his officers, and with appropriate ceremonies in which the Franklin Committee were participants, General Washington with his own hands hoisted the newly-made and accepted banner, upon a towering and specially raised pine tree—liberty pole—thus unfurling to the breeze and displaying to his army, the citizens of the vicinity, and the British forces in Boston, the new and officially recognized Colonial Flag.

This was the first authoritative recognition of any American standard having the color of Congressional action, as a distinctively accepted flag to represent the Confederate and co-operative union of the Colonies in their resistance of tyranny, injustice and oppression. And this was the first time in the history of the world that a standard of thirteen alternate red and white stripes, formed the field of any National Standard.

Upon the day that this first American flag was raised the King's speech, on the trouble with the Colonies, was received in Boston, and copies of his speech were sent under flags of truce to General Washington at Cambridge by Lord Howe, the commanding general of the British forces.

This coincidence caused an amusing error on the part of the British, for when the new flag was raised in the American camp, amid the booming of cannon and ringing cheers, the British thought that all these demonstrations denoted the submission of the Americans to the exactions of the King. But the idea of submission was the farthest from their thoughts. The King's message was indignantly burned and as the new banner was furled to the breeze every loyal American heart was filled with a

deeper and sturdier patriotism, with a firm determination to fight for Freedom's colors.

When this flag was displayed in Washington's camp at Cambridge, it was clearly seen by the British officers at Charlestown Heights, and Royal officers, with the aid of their field glasses, easily made out all the details of its design and construction. These officers, in their wonderful wisdom, interpreted the raising of the flag—which they said is "*thoroughly English,* you know"—to mean that General Washington thus announced his surrender to them, and they at once saluted "The Thirteen Stripes" with thirteen hearty cheers; and they immediately followed this spontaneous outburst of British enthusiasm with grander and more dignified official salute of thirteen guns.

This unintended official recognition, and this "baptism in fire" of the newly-adopted Colonial Flag by its enemies was one of the most singular and mysterious procedures in the annals of man; it seems as though Providence had obliged the British to signify their joy at its unfurling, and, though they even be enemies of American liberty, *God made them salute its first appearance.*

This flag, known to Americans as the Great Union Flag, raised by General Washington, January 2, 1776, is beyond a doubt the fundamentality of the *Stripes* on the adopted Star Spangled Banner in 1777.

Second Theoretical Origin.—The earliest known instance of thirteen stripes being used upon an American banner is found upon a standard presented to the Philadelphia Light Horse—a private gentleman troop—in the year 1775, by Captain Abraham Markoe. When, on the

21st of June, 1775, Gen. George Washington set out on horseback *en route* to take command of the Continental Army at Cambridge, he had for military companions of his long journey, Major-Generals Lee and Schuyler, and was escorted to New York by the Philadelphia Light Horse, commanded by Captain Markoe; the whole formed a brilliant cavalcade. The journey of Washington with his associate generals, experienced like himself in the wide expositions of the old French War, was a revival of early campaign feelings, and, in fact, the journey may be said to have been a continual council of war between the commander-in-chief and the two generals. No doubt, as the column of Philadelphia Light Horse, the grandest uniformed body of American patriots, was the factor of escort, they as a troop commanded the attention of Generals Washington, Lee and Schuyler, and in as much as this no doubt was the case, the grand banner as carried by the Light Horse attracted the notice of these great military men. Washington doubtless was familiar with the sight of this standard long before he became commander-in-chief of the American forces, since as a delegate to the Continental Congress then in Philadelphia, he certainly often saw the much-commented on Philadelphia Light Horse troop parade the streets of the City of Brothehrly Love; and when in a few weeks later he was escorted by them to his military duty, he no doubt was deeply impressed with their military perfection. And thus when the Franklin Committee called to see him in camp at Cambridge, he and the Committee, being familiar with the standard of the Light Horse Troop, it is possible—in fact certain—that the thirteen stripes on their banner sug-

gested to the committee the thirteen-striped "*Great Union Flag,*" raised at Cambridge January 2, 1776.

On November 21, 1775, Lady Washington was escorted from Schuylkill Ferry, through Philadelphia, by the Light Horse Troop, and again on the 27th of the same month she was attended by the same troop on her journey to the camp at Cambridge, where she arrived to see General Washington and in time to describe to him the grand parade of the Philadelphia Light Horse; and thus again Washington was reminded of the standard of this company, and on the thirteenth of December, when the Flag Committee met he certainly instructed Franklin to adopt the unique and appropriate thirteen strips as displayed on the standard of the gallant Light Horse of Philadelphia.

Now let us learn more about this Philadelphia Light Horse and their grand banner, and thus be prepared to judge more conscientiously concerning the origin of the Star Spangled Standard. The first Continental Congress assembled at Philadelphia September 17th, '74, and on the 17th of November of the same year, twenty-eight gentlemen of the highest respectability and fortune, voluntarily associated, constituted themselves the Philadelphia Troop of Light Horse, and elected Abraham Markoe their captain. The members equipped themselves at their own expense. The uniform adopted by them was a dark brown short coat, faced and lined with white; high-topped boots; a round black hat bound with silver cord and a buck's tail. Their housings were brown, edged with white, and the letters L. H. (Light Horse) worked on them. Their arms were carbine, a pair of pistols in holsters, and a horseman's sword, with white belts for sword and car-

bines; and their flag, which we will next study, was the finest in the Colonies. This was the appearance of the troop when it escorted Gen. George Washington to New York, and afterwards fought under the self-same standard at Trenton and Princeton.

The description of this interesting revolutionary standard is as follows:

The flag of the Philadelphia Light Horse is forty inches long and thirty-four inches broad. Its canton is twelve and one-half inches long and nine and one-half inches wide. The armorial achievement in its center occupies the proportional space as shown in the engraving, both sides of the flag exhibit the same attributes. The material of the flag is a light bright yellow silk. The *Canton* of the flag is *Barry* of Thirteen, seven *azure* and six *argent.* The achievement in the middle of the flag is *azure,* a round knot of three interlacings with thirteen divergent, wavy, bellied, double foliage *or;* the scroll edging of the shield is gold, with outer and inner rims of silver.

The *Crest* a horse's head, *bay,* with a star *argent* on the forehead. Over the head of this charger is the monogram of the troop, "L. H." Beneath the shield the motto, *"For these we strive,"* in black Roman capitals, on a floating silver scroll, upon the upcurled ends of which stand the two *supporters.*

Dexter supporter is a Continental masquerading as an American Indian (probably of the "Boston Tea Party" fame of December 16, 1773) with a bow or the loosened string *azure* floating on the wind, in his left hand; in his right hand a gold rod upholding a *Liberty Cap* with tassels *azure;* the quiver over his right shoulder is *or*

and its arrows *proper*. The *sinister* supporter represents an angel of florid tints, with auburn curly hair and blue eyes, blowing a golden trumpet and holding a golden rod. The wings of the angel are bluish-gray and the flowing robe from the right shoulder to the left flank is *purple*. The fringe on the border of the standard of silver bullion twist; the spear head and upper ferrule, taken together, are eight inches in length and made of solid silver. The staff is of dark wood.

This flag can without a reasonable doubt be considered as the first American Flag containing the stripe and star.

The question is often asked who designed the standards of the Philadelphia Light Horse. This query has as yet never been, nor we doubt if it ever shall be, satisfactorily answered. A fair solution of the question would probably be as follows: Late in 1775 Captain Marko resigned his commission as captain of the Light Horse Troop on account of an edict of Christian VIII, King of Denmark, forbidding his subjects to engage in war against Great Britain, under penalty of confiscation of their property. Marko, in consequence of this, presented his standard, which was Mr. Markoe's personal property, but he willingly permitted the troop to bear it as their standard, especially so since the banner was expressly made and personally designed and ordered to be painted by Mr. Markoe. Mr. Markoe had footed the bills of making, which amounted to £9.15, and on his resignation he refused to accept the pay from the troop and presented them with a standard, which in reality was their unpaid-for property.

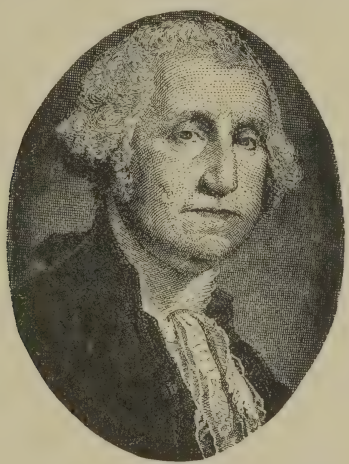
The Philadelphia Light Horse Troop had always

prized their standard very highly, but never suspected its value in the history of the stars and strips until 1872, when Preble, in his history of the American Flag, conclusively shows that the Markoe standard was one of intrinsic evidence in the origin of our National Banner. The troop has since placed the old and original Light Horse ensign between two plates of glass, and deposited it in an iron fireproof safe built expressly for its reception in the troop's new armory.

The Franklin Committee, in accepting the stripes, changed them from the canton to the field, and converted the seven *azure* stripes to *gules* with the British Union in the canton, thus making the red and stripes of the great Union flag.

Third Theoretical Origin.—In June, 1776, Gen. George Washington was called to Philadelphia to advise with Congress on the state of affairs just previous to the Declaration, and during his stay of fifteen days at the Continental Capitol he intimated that in case the Colonies declared themselves free from the British Crown, it would necessitate a new and national standard instead of the Colonial Union Flag, and in consequence of this timely suggestion of Washington, Congress, immediately after the declaration, appointed a Committee, *"authorized to design a suitable flag for the nation."* The Committee consulted with the General on the matter, and General Washington presented a roughly designed flag, with which the Committee was agreeably taken. The Committee, accompanied by Washington, then called upon Mrs. Ross, wife of Col. George Ross of the Continental army, who was an upholsterer by trade. Mr. Ross was at home, and his house, which still stands at 239 Arch street, Phila-

delphia, was the scene of the draughting; the Committee engaged Mrs. Ross to execute the design, which, at her suggestion, was redrawn by General Washington in her back parlor. Mrs. Ross, in accordance, made the proposed flag, and, much to the gratification of the Committee and General Washigton, their newly-made national ensign, the Stars and Stripes, was in time adopted by



GEN. WASHINGTON.

Congress on the memorable 14th day of June, 1777. The newly adopted standard consisted of thirteen stripes, alternate, red and white, same as the Great Union Flag raised at Cambridge, and instead of the British Union a blue canton spangled with thirteen stars.

Here then we have our stars and stripes, "Old Glory," clothed with the first vesture of sovereignty. The question naturally arises, "Why were the *stars* selected to represent the different states?" To this we can only reply

that the origin of these heavenly lights is involved in obscurity. Many suppose that they were from the Washington coat of arms, which was by a curious coincidence composed of three spurs and four stripes, alternate red and white.

Thus it is claimed that Washington, without far seek-

THE WASHINGTON ARMS.

ing, found an appropriate design for a national banner, his own escutcheon suggesting to his mind the *stars*, and possibly the *stripes*. It may not have been Washington who proposed the stars, but, on the contrary, Mr. Morris, chairman of the Committee, possibly suggested them in token of the Washington family arms, which were familiar to the eyes of the prominent people of the day.

Historians nowadays claim that Washington cared

too little for the family arms, and consequently he would have been adverse to having the Committee or himself pattern after his coat-of-arms. That this statement by writers of the past has not in it sufficient essence of authenticity and truth we soon learn when studying the inner character of the patriot and general.

Let us next learn what the Washington family coat-of-arms consisted of, and then disprove the assertion that the General did not appreciate the old family badge.

In the English College of Heraldry, in the city of London, is recorded the following concerning the coat-of-arms of ancestors of our Washingtons.

"*Arms—Argent* Two bars *gules;* in chief, three mullets of the second.

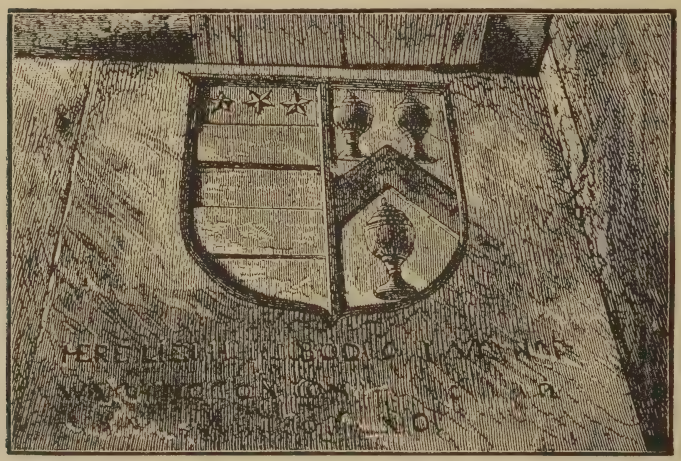
"*Crest.* A raven with wings indorsed proper, issuing out of a ducal coronet, *or.*"

Thus we find that his ancestors must have been important personages, since the mullets and ducal coronet appear on the family badge. These forefathers of our general had in old chivalrous times distinguished themselves from their compeers in the tournament or upon the battlefield, and in consequence merited the high bearings.

The Washington family in England were very proud of their genealogy, and especially of their family coat-of-arms; thus in the old town of Solgrave, England, where they lived, we find the *family arms*—stars and stripes—in stained glass, adorning the window on the public side of the house. And the family was not backward in regard to bringing the arms to public notice. We find them on the tower of the church in their village; on the pews of the same church; on numerable gravestones; on

door panels of the homestead, dishes in the pantry and mantel or the fireplace.

When the trouble of Charles the I brewed the Washington family favored the King, and after the execution of Charles, England became an uncomfortable residence to such as had signalized themselves as adherents of the House of Stuart (Charles I). Many of the people sought



WASHINGTON GRAVE (ENGLAND).

refuge in foreign climes, where they might live free from molestation. This was no doubt the case with John Washington, great grandfather of our illustrious George, when, in 1657, he emigrated to America and settled in West Mooreland County, Virginia. Notwithstanding that the Washington family from now on was separated from immediate aristocracy and regality, they nevertheless cherished the fact that *once* they were "among them."

Under their family influence our great Washington was reared, and readily can we censure him for appreciating the ancestral character and deeds? not at all, for they certainly merited these *honors*.

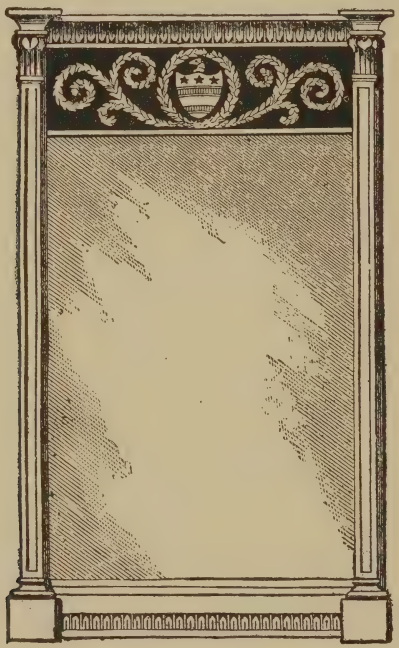
WASHINGTON'S BOOKMARK.

Now let us notice where our Washington displayed these tattered remnants of heraldic days, and demonstrate to hasty writers that he *did* care for the family badge. We find them decorating many if not all of Washington's precious and highly appreciated valuables, as follows:

First.—When but a young man he purchased a silver

watch and had the jeweler engrave on the back of the same the family arms.

Second.—Immediately upon taking possession of Mt.

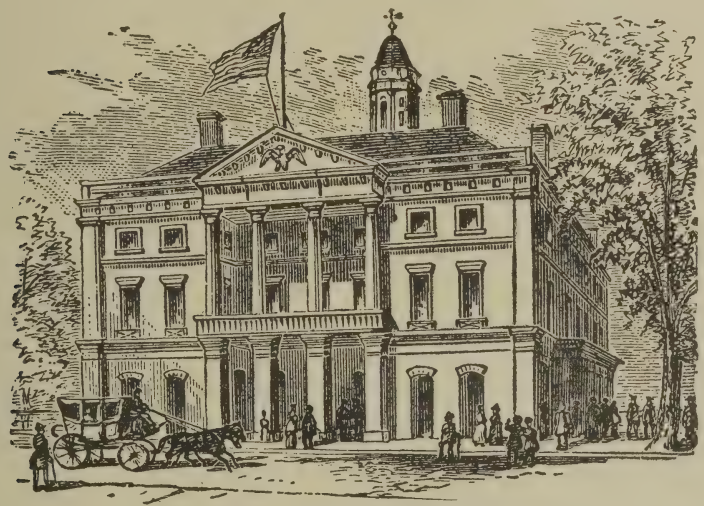


WASHINGTON'S MIRROR.

Vernon he found it necessary to have a seal, in order to give more authenticity to his name, and in accordance had the stars and stripes of his family arms engraved in silver fastened to the end of a sealing stick. This seal he used when he took command of the Colonial forces in 1776, as the following note to William Burke, Esq., in

which he appointed him captain of the schooner *Warren,* will show, closing with these words: "Given under my hand and *seal* at *Cambridge,* this 1st day of February, Annogue Domini, 1776. George Washington, *Commander-in-chief of the Army of the United Colonies.*"

Third.—During the period that he was commander-



INAUGURAL HALL, 1789.

in-chief of the American army he again purchased a watch, and, like before, had his arms and crest engraved upon it in a manner allowing him to use the back of the watch as a seal. He thus would attach the sealing wax to the paper or document intended for sealing, and with the back of his watch containing the coat-of-arms he would impress the same on the wax. This old seal he used while in the American camp and it is found upon

many old letters and reports of General Washington. This seal he adopted shortly after the Declaration of Independence and added the following motto, *"Exetus acta probat,"* a quotation from Ovid, which means, "Actions are tested by their issues."

Fourth.—Upon retiring from the army he devised a book-plate or stamp, with which he marked his large library of volumes; this book marker contained the family arms, to which he added his name, George Washington.

Fifth.—Many pieces of furniture at Mount Vernon were marked with the family shield, i. e., a large standard mirror, which stood in the reception room, has the armorial bearings of the Washingtons.

Sixth.—Just before his inauguration as President of the United States, he ordered a large mirror with a gilt frame of elaborate workmanship, and bearing the family escutcheon and crest.

Seventh.—Perhaps no other one object more fully tells that the family shield of Washington was popular than the picture he received of King Louis the Seventeenth of France. This picture is a full-length portrait of the King in his state robes, and the gilt frame that contains it was expressly made in France. At the top, surrounded by emblems, are the royal arms of France, the *Fleur de lis on an azure field;* at the bottom of the frame the arms of the Washington family, stars and stripes, and in the corners are seen the monograms of the King and President, LL XVI and G. W.

Eighth.—Another instance that proves the assertion that the family shield and crest of Washington was well known by his admirers is the fact that in 1781, when the

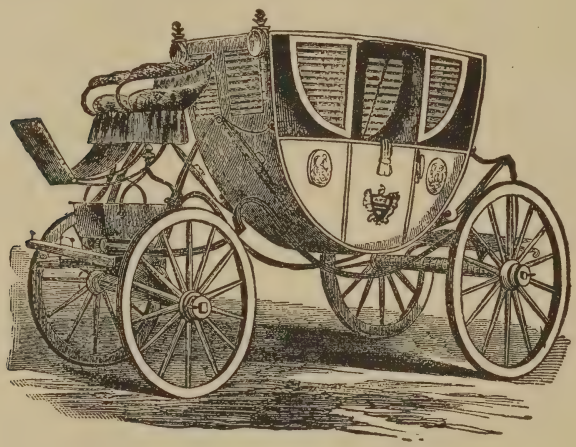
Freemasons adopted a new constitution, it was approved of unanimously that the coat-of-arms of General Washing-

PICTURE TO WASHINGTON.

ton, who was a prominent member of the order, should decorate the book as a frontispiece, and the grand lodge further resolved, "In case our beloved and illustrious

brother *Washington* permitted it to be dedicated to him, that his excellency's family arms be prefixed to the dedication."

Ninth.—The large punch bowl used by his family is of pure white porcelain with a deep *blue* border at the rim, ornamented with gilt stars; in the bottom is a picture of a frigate; on the sides are the initials *G. W.* in gilt upon a shield, with ornamental surroundings.



WASHINGTON CARRIAGE.

Tenth.—Washington's silver tea service made in New York, in 1789, contains the family arms and crest. The massive salver had them engraved on the bottom; the tea urn had them on the sides and the coffee pot had but the *crest.*

Eleventh.—In no manner more than on the panels of his family carriage did he exhibit his love for popularizing his family shield and crest. On both of the carriage doors

pendence and Republic," are identical with those which the thirteen colonies in years after so successfully maintained. What was more likely than that in adopting a device *our* union, our fathers, should derive the idea from a country—an Independent Republic—to whose example they were already so much indebted.

That the Colonists were familiar with the Dutch flag—red, white and blue—and cherished it is shown in the circumstance of the Continental Navy under Commodore Hopkins; we find among a list of secret signals for the American fleet by day the following:

"For the Wasp to chase: A Dutch flag at the mizzen peak."

"For the Fly to chase: A Dutch flag at the main topmast head."

"For Andrew Doria to chase: A Dutch flag at the fore topmast head."

"To speak with the Fly: A Dutch flag at the ensign staff."

"To speak with Andrew Doria: A Dutch flag at the mizzen topmast head."

It was, therefore, in 1622, at New Amsterdam, that the "Red, White and Blue" was first, in stripes, unfurled to the breeze as the colors and fundamental design destined in after years to become permanent, victorious and glorious, as the flag of another Free Republic.

Seventh Theoretical Origin.—We remember reading the *first theoretical origin,* in which we learn that the professor who joined the Franklin Committee strongly favored the idea of adopting a flag similar to the one displayed by the English East India Company. Now let us see what this flag is composed of and study from it

understood in a supplicating tone, i. e., *"Don't Tread on Me,"* but as the spirit of revolt gathered it came to mean menacingly, "Don't Tread on Me."

Thus to the Continental navy we are indebted for the daring spirit and courage of unfurling to the breeze the real, true American banner, untarnished by any of the King's devices.

Thus, it is possible, when the Continental Committee met with George Washington, this purely American ensign engaged their attention and they accordingly modeled after it, consequently adopting from this American standard the stripes for the national stars and stripes. But it yet remains for us to determine where, if not from the Washington shield, did the Committee borrow the thirteen stars.

Fifth Theoretical Origin.—About the time of the signing of the Declaration of Independence a flag of unusual merit waved over the heads of a hopeful Continental troop. The field of the flag was white, symbolical of truth, virtue and innocence; in an *azure* canton there were spangled thirteen white *stars,* in a symmetrical order, so that eight stars formed a square within which the remaining five were so placed that four formed a small square and the fifth displayed in the center. The white field had upon it an *azure* anchor, above which was a small *azure* scroll containing the consoling word *Hope* in white.

The real history of the flag is not known, but it appears to be a *private troop* flag from Rhode Island; what leads us to think so is the fact of its having the anchor of that state with the significant word *Hope,* and another fact which goes to prove its being from Rhode Island is the following act of the Rhode Island General Assembly:

The flag of the State being an anchor, with the word *"Hope,"* the whole to be surrounded by a scroll, around which in a circle shall be as many stars as there are states in the Union.

It is probable that thirteen white stars, as seen on our National Standard, were copied from this Revolutionary banner, which no doubt was familiar to General Washington.

Thus if we analyze the adopted stars and stripes we find their real origin possibly in two purely American flags, namely, the Navy Ensign of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, and the supposed Rhode Island banner containing in an *azure* canton thirteen white stars.

Sixth Theoretical Origin.—The first time that a flag striped *red, white and blue* ever floated in American atmosphere was in 1622, when the Union flag of the Republic of Netherlands waved over what is now the metropolis of our land—New York City. It has been authoritatively suggested that the stripes of our flag, as a symbol of union, were derived from the national flag of the Netherlands, adopted as early as 1582, and which *then,* as *now,* consisted of three equal horizontal stripes, symbolical of the rise of the Dutch Republic.

The stripes on the Dutch flag were at first *orange, white* and *blue,* and these were the colors that Henrich Hudson displayed in 1609 when he sailed up the river that bears his name, and founded the Dutch colony with New Amsterdam (New York City) for its trading post. This flag was official until 1622, when the real Dutch Standard—red, white and blue—was substituted. In 1644, when the Dutch surrendered New Amsterdam to the British, the red, white and blue gave way to the British

ensign. In 1673 the Dutch again took possession of the city and the tricolor remained the standard until 1674, when, by a treaty of peace between England and Holland, the Cross of St. George was hoisted over New York.

From Holland came the emigrants who first planted the seeds of civil and religious liberty and popular educa-

THE MAYFLOWER.

tion in the Empire State, and from Holland more than any other land came the ideal of a Federal Union to bind together the American colonies.

From whither persecution had driven them, also embarked the Pilgrim Fathers, to land upon our winter-swept and storm and rock bound coast. The rights for which Holland so long struggled, namely, "Liberty, Inde-

he had the arms painted in proper heraldic style, with the addition of the motto, *Exetus acta probat.*

This will suffice to prove that our grand Washington was very fond of exhibiting the fact that he came from a knighted family, and it leads us to believe that he would have permitted the aristocratic idea to enter his mind, of displaying these knightly attributes in our national matters. That he was anxious to manifest his heritage, and willing to learn of it, the fact proved that in 1792 he corresponded with an English herald on the subject of his family arms and crest.

The objection raised by many historians that the stars could not have been adopted on our national standard on account of their having been mullets—spurs—wheels—with holes in the center, is disproved in the fact that not all the Washington arms present the stars as mullets, i. e., on the tombstone of Lawrence Washington of England the family arms are deeply engraven, impaled on the dexter half—with those of his wife.

Fourth Theoretical Origin.—The first inter-colonial flag, containing thirteen stripes, alternate red and white and discarding the British Union, was the naval flag raised by Commodore Hopkins, commander-in-chief of the navy.

As near as we can determine, this took place some time in February, 1776, but was made some weeks previous and was raised on the gunboat *Alfred.* This flag, in addition, had a rattlesnake painted upon it, and beneath the snake these significant words: "Don't tread on me."

This snake and motto were borrowed from the Culpeper flag, carried by the Culpeper minute men in 1775; this flag had also painted above the snake, Liberty or Death. In the early part of the Revolution the motto was

the significance intended. The East India Company, whose first charter was granted December 31, 1600, by Queen Elizabeth, to "George, Earl of Cumberland, and two hundred and fifteen knights, aldermen and merchants, what, at their own cost and charges, might set forth on one or more voyages to the East Indies."

Just what their flag was at the organization of the company is not evident, but a book—Present State of the Universe—published in London in 1704, gives as the East Indies ensign a flag with thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white, with a St. George's Cross on a white canton, which rests upon the fourth red stripe. But we find that this number of stripes is varied thus: In 1705 it contained ten, in 1720 it had nine, and in 1730 it consisted of eleven stripes. It is hardly probable that the Committee at Cambridge copied after it, especially so since it was this identical company which brought to the Colonies that famous cargo of taxed tea, and by a masqueraded number of Colonials the tea was steeped in the Boston harbor.

Eighth Theoretical Origin.—When the Continental army came into camp at Cambridge under General Washington the soldiers were without uniforms, and the different grades were distinguished by means of a stripe or ribbon, as the following letter will show:

"HEADQUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE,

July 23, 1775.

Parole, Brunswick, Countersign Princeton!

"As the Continental Army have unfortunately no uniforms, and consequently many inconveniences must arise from not being able always to distinguish the commissioned officers from the non-commissioned, and the non-

commissioned from the privates, it is desired that some badge of distinction may be immediately provided; for instance, the field officers may have red or pink cockades on their hats, the captains yellow or buff, and the subalterns green. They are to furnish themselves accordingly. The sergeants may be distinguished by an epaulette or stripe of red cloth sewed upon the right shoulder; corporals by one of green, etc. It being thought proper to distinguish the majors from the brigadiers-general by some particular work. For the future major-generals will wear a broad purple ribbon. The daily view of these strips or ribbons the only distinguishing marks of rank would naturally suggest to the Committee the idea of representing the various States by similar means.

Ninth Theoretical Origin.—When General Washington took command of the Continental forces at Cambridge on July 2, 1775, we remember that the battle of Bunker Hill had been fought a fortnight before he arrived in camp, and upon being informed that the Continentals had gained the victory, he exclaimed, "The liberties of the country are safe!" no doubt believing that if the Continentals untrimmed and untrained could defeat the British regulars they certainly would more easily do so after he arrived and thoroughly organized and disciplined the motley band; and it is presumable that when the Committee on flag met Washington in December following little more could engage their attention that the unexpected victory of the Americans at Bunker Hill, and naturally enough the Committee eagerly inquired as regards the colors that led the Colonists on to victory. Upon being informed of the standards, the Committee no doubt highly cherished them, and believe me, kind read-

ers, these ensigns were of our emblematic color, *red, white and blue,* which we will now briefly study. The first or *red* flag was the one familiarly known as the New England Standard, which was a *red* field with the British Union in the canton, but on the occasion of the battle of Bunker Hill the colonists added these words on the red field: *"Come if you dare."*

The second or white flag was borne at the battle of Bunker Hill by the Connecticut troops, and was a flag of a *white* field in the center of which was painted a pine tree above which were the words *"An appeal to Heaven."*

The third or blue flag was carried by the Massachusetts troops and consisted of a *blue* field with the white canton quartered by the red cross of St. George, and in one section of which was painted a pine tree.

Now if we unite these standards we have the significant stripes with the appropriate colors, *red, white and blue.*

In the beginning of this chapter we have alluded to the shield merely in a prefatory manner, and found that those who submitted designs with the shield preferred the Norman pattern; but all materially differed as to the blazoning. But all designers, subsequent to June 14, 1777, the adoption of the stars and stripes—chose to decorate the Great Seal with *arms* representing our Star Spangled Banner. The first person attempting to blazon the Shield with our National colors was James Lovell of the Committee of 1779, and he adopted the methods of blazoning the *stars* in the heavens, with clouds all *proper,* and this disposition of the stars seemed to please the later designers. These he placed on a Shield ten stripes, half *sinister,* half *gules* and half *argent.*

And in as much as he in his first design represented the primary colors, *red, white and blue,* with the stars in their proper place, he fairly reached perfection, since the thirteen stripes are horizontal, alternately red and white, and in the *azure* canton thirteen stars proper. In his fourth design, he retained the blazoning of the stripes, but chose to inclose them in an *azure* border spangled with thirteen white stars.

Mr. Charles Thomson—the last Committee—adopted substantially the first design as submitted by our friend Will Barton, and this, we remember, was the device adopted by the Continental Congress. Now the question arises, was the first design of the shield as drawn by Barton original with him? And in answering this mystic query, we are led by authority to reply in the negative, simply because we find that prior to his sketching the shield as chief *azure,* thirteen pales alternately *gules* and argent, there had been several American shields thusly blazoned.

Perhaps the first American shield, and the one first to be composed of the identical *ordinary charges* subsequently used by Barton, are found on the banner of the Life Guard of General Washington. This Guard was organized in 1776, soon after the siege of Boston, while the American army was encamped near the city of New York. It consisted of a major's command—180 men. These men were selected with special reference to their physical, moral and intellectual character, forming the finest body of men in the revolutionary army, and they were carefully chosen from all the Colonial troops, thus giving every colony representation in this distinguished Guard. What the flag of this Guard was at its organiza-

tion is not ascertainable, but immediately after the passage in Congress, June 14, 1777, denominating the National Flag as consisting of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, with thirteen stars on a blue field, the Washington Life Guard set to work devising a new banner in substance, to represent the new National ensign. "The flag adopted," says one of the Guard, "was of white silk, upon which the following device was neatly painted: One of the Guard is holding a horse.

Edward Rutledge of the Committee of 1782 chose to report substantially the same as Lovell.

Mr. Will Barton, in his effort to portray the National Flag, approached nearer perfection than his former colflag from the Genius of Liberty, who is personified as a woman leaning upon the Union Shield, near which is the American Eagle. The motto of the corps, "conquer or die," is upon the ribbon. The uniform of the Guard who is holding the horse consisted of a blue coat with white facings, white waistcoat and breeches, black half-gaiters, a cocked hat with a blue and white feather, and carried side arms."

This flag goes to prove that our British friend, Sir John Prestwick, did not design our National shield or arms, since the standard of the Washington Life Guards contained it, in 1777, and Sir John did not suggest it to John Adams, then ambassador to the Court of St. James, till 1782, upward of five years after its adoption by the Guard.

Another fact which disproves the statement of the British aristocrat, is the medal struck to General Anthony Wayne, by Congress in 1779. The engraving represents the size of the original: "On the obverse side is a device

representing an Indian Queen crowned, a quiver on her back, and wearing a short apron of feathers. A mantle hangs upon the waist, behind the upper end of which appears, as if passed through the gridle of her apron, and

GEN. ANTHONY WAYNE.

hangs gracefully by her side. With her right hand she is presenting a wreath to General Wayne; in her left she is holding up a mural crown toward his head. At her feet on the left an alligator is lying. The American Shield

is resting against the animal. Over the figure is the legend, *Antonis Wayne Duci Exercitus,* and beneath, *Comitia Americano.* On the reverse is a forte on the top of a hill, the British colors flying; troops in single file advancing up the hill and a large number lying at the bottom. Artillery are seen in the foreground, and six vessels in the river. The inscription is *Stony Point, Expinguatum XV, Jul MDCCLXXIX."*

Another medal struck by Congress to Major Stewart in the latter part of 1779, similar to the one just described, also contained the American Shield with *ordinary charges,* like the one on the Great Seal drawn and designed by Will Barton on June 12, and adopted by the Continental Congress June 20, 1782.

Thus, beyond the shadow of a doubt, we owe no thanks or gratitude to Sir John Prestwick, a titled Englishman. His claim is without foundation.

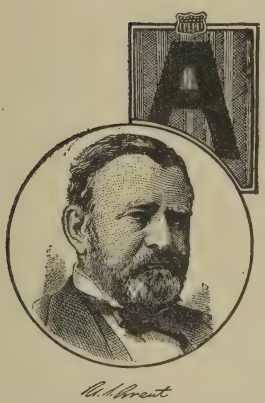
It would be wrong to say it was coincidental that an American and an Englishman designed the American Shield, since the Briton submitted his design years after it had already been popularized in the United Colonies.

CHAPTER XVIII.

E PLURIBUS UNUM.

"Lord of the Universe! Shield us and guide us,
Trusting Thee always, through shadow and sun.
Thou has united us, who shall divide us?
Keep us, oh, keep us the 'Many in one!'
Up with our banner bright,
Sprinkled with starry light;
Spread its fair emblems from mountain to shore,
While through the sounding sky
Loud rings the Nation's cry—
'Union and Liberty! One evermore!' "

—O. W. Holmes.



ALL nations have a motto which is intended to express a national sentiment. The epigraph E Pluribus Unum, which figures upon the obverse side of the Great Seal, and is the cherished motto of our proud Nation, has been universally admired; nothing could have been happier or more appropriate.

It will be the great aim of this chapter to determine if possible, its noble birth and disprove beyond a doubt, some of the sources attributed by historians of the past. Any of the following origins are possible and in the order in which they are given demonstrate the plausibility or source:

In colonial times, as early as 1731, an English

monthly publication, *The Gentleman's Magazine,* was the chief periodical of the day, and this magazine had on its title page the Latin motto, *"E Pluribus Unum."*

It has been suggested that since this periodical had a popular circulation in the colonies, the leaders of our Revolution of '76 were certainly familiar with this magazine, especially so, since in it Dr. Johnson wrote the reports of debates in Parliament. The title to the first volume of The Gentleman's Magazine, 1731,—forty-five years previous to the adoption of the motto on our arms—has the device of a hand grasping a bunch of flowers, and the epigraph *"E Pluribus Unum."* On the title-page of the January number, 1731, and in all subsequent numbers of the first volume, are the mottoes *"Prodesse et Delectare"* and *"E Pluribus Unum."* The management of the magazine was under the supervision of a Mr. Sylvanus Urban, and he said that "its contents are collected chiefly from the public papers" and thus undoubtedly, the appropriate title *"E Pluribus Unum"* meaning in this case "Many (papers) in one (paper).

And these mottoes were continued on the title-pages of this magazine more than a hundred years, and in 1833 they were discontinued. These mottoes were, however, changed in the intervening years. From 1786 to 1788 the columns bore the mottoes, without the device (hand clasping the bunch of flowers). From 1788 to 1794, the device without the mottoes. Again in 1798, the mottoes without the device. In 1808 the device was changed from a hand grasping a bouquet, to a vase filled with fruit and flowers; and as a motto the following: *"Prodesse et Delectare e Pluribus unum De Amicitia,"* which was retained till 1833.

THE

Gentleman's Magazine:

OR,

Monthly Intelligencer.

For the YEAR 1731.

CONTAINING,

I. ESSAYS *Controverſial*, *Humorous*, and *Satirical*; *Religious*, *Moral*, and *Political:* Collected chiefly from the *Public Papers*.

II. Select Pieces of POETRY.

III. A ſuccinct Account of the moſt *remarkable Tranſactions* and *Events* Foreign and Domeſtick.

IV. *Births*, *Marriages*, *Deaths*, *Promotions*, and *Bankrupts*.

V. The Price of *Goods* and *Stocks*, and Bill of *Mortality*.

VI. A Regiſter of Books.

VII. Obſervations in *Gardening*.

With proper INDEXES.

TITLE PAGE (IN PART).

Which member of the Committee on Seal or who in particular suggested this grand motto, as applied to our Nation, we will consider later.

Second Theoretical Origin.—Another popular, though not extensively read, colonial periodical, was the "Spectator," which was the only English magazine that

By SYLVANUS URBAN, Gent.

VOL. I.

Prodeſſe & delectare. *E Pluribus Unum.*

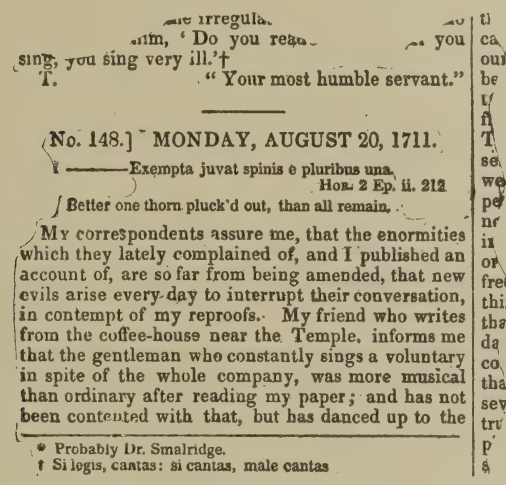
LONDON:

Printed, and ſold at *St John's Gate*, by *F. Jefferies* in *Ludgate-ſtreet*, and moſt Bookſellers.

TITLE PAGE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE 1731.

reached the colonies prior to the Gentleman's Magazine. The Spectator was a periodical which clearly illustrated the manners and morals of that time, and contained the finest specimens of English literary workmanship; among its principal contributors were Addison and Steele. The essays in the Spectator were without title, and were denominated by their respective numbers as they appeared

in the Journal. Thus—essay number 148, dated Monday, August 20, 1711, opens with this Latin phrase: "*Exempta juvat spinis e pluribus una,*" followed by: "*Better one thorn plucked out than all remain.*" Here, then, we find our cherished American motto with the slight grammatical change in *unum* to *una* to agree in gender with thorn.



...irregula... ...um, 'Do you rea... you sing, you sing very ill.'†

T. "Your most humble servant."

No. 148.] MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1711.

——Exempta juvat spinis e pluribus una.
Hor. 2 Ep. ii. 212

Better one thorn pluck'd out, than all remain.

My correspondents assure me, that the enormities which they lately complained of, and I published an account of, are so far from being amended, that new evils arise every day to interrupt their conversation, in contempt of my reproofs. My friend who writes from the coffee-house near the Temple, informs me that the gentleman who constantly sings a voluntary in spite of the whole company, was more musical than ordinary after reading my paper; and has not been contented with that, but has danced up to the

* Probably Dr. Smalridge.
† Si legis, cantas: si cantas, male cantas

ESSAY NO. 148, SPECTATOR, 1711.

This essay containing *E Pluribus Una* was written by Sir Richard Steele, one of the famous writers of the day, and bosom companion to Joseph Addison. The Latin phrase is not original with Steele, since he was conscientious enough to quote it from Horace.

Hence upwards of twenty years, subsequent to Steele's writing, the Gentleman's Magazine adopted this motto with slight alterations.

Third Theoretical Origin.—On close search, we find that the Latin phrase not only figured in modern, but also in early, ancient times. The "*beggar Poet*" Horace used it upwards of 45 years B. C. Horace was born 65 B. C., and at the early age of seventeen lost his father and thus was obliged to write for his daily bread; he attracted general attention and was sent to institutions of learning, where, as a scholar, he was regarded as unequaled. He wrote many illustrious volumes, but the ones engaging our attention mostly are his Epistles, where our national motto appears. These essays and sketches on the art of poetry are exquisitely finished and are the most perfect of his poems, fully exhibiting his tenderness and elegance of style; and abounding in wise thoughts and just sentiments on manners and society, which have made Horace the favorite companion, not only of scholars, but wise men, of the world. He is the most read, best remembered and most frequently quoted of all writers of antiquity, and in the second book of Epistles, page 212, we quote the following: "*Exempta juvat spinis e pluribus una.*" Horace died 8 years B. C. and was buried in the city of Rome. He was of short stature, with dark hair, which early turned gray, dark eyes, and in later years he was very corpulent. He was never married, though he shows in his writing that he was an ardent lover, and of a contented, happy nature. Horace used an expression conveying the same thought as does our National motto, but on careful investigation we find he is not the "father of the thought," but rather the "child of the idea," he having borrowed the phrase from Virgil.

Fourth Theoretical Origin.—Horace was not the first among ancient writers to use the phrase; on the contrary,

his predecessor Virgil it is who invented the beautiful association of words—*"E Pluribus Una."* Virgil was born but a few years prior to the birth of Horace, and, much unlike the latter, he was the son of a wealthy farmer, who early sent his promising son to the school and gave him a liberal Greek and Latin education.

His writings were extensive and several hundred of his manuscripts are deposited in Rome; his influence, on Roman literature and the literature of the middle ages, was without an equal in literary history. His poems were the text-books of the Roman youths and great men of all ages were his admirers and imitators—Horace not accepted.

If we turn to a complete edition of the works of Virgil, we find among his shorter miscellaneous poems one entitled "Moretum," which is the name of a kind of salad made of many herbs and vegetables, combined with cheese, a dish in great demand among the Italian armies of Virgil's time. Virgil vividly describes the composition of this dainty dish, and he pictures the peasant at day-dawn swiftly stirring the many-hued ingredients in a bowl with a pestle until at last the color of the compound becomes, *from many one—E Pluribus Una.* The lines in which this Latin phrase appear are as follows:

"It manus in gyrum;
Paulatin singula vires
Deperdunt proprias;
Color est *e pluribus unus.*"

Here, then, we have the real and first authentic origin of the Latin phrase *unum* changed to *unus* to agree in gender with color. Whether or not our forefathers remembered this particular poem of Virgil, or whether they

reinvented the almost exact words of that Roman poet is not known, but it gratifies us to learn that to Virgil belongs the credit of having been the man who first wrote *"E Pluribus Unus"—From Many One.*

Fifth Theoretical Origin.—It is claimed that as early as 1776 the continental congress ordered that the President of that body have a token of authority in the shape of a seal. The seal which is here delineated bears thirteen stars in the midst of breaking clouds and has as an emblem

SEAL OF PRESIDENT (CONTINENTAL CONGRESS).

of Union, the epigraph *E Pluribus Unum.* How early this little oval seal was used we may not now be able to determine, but good authority seems to fix the time early in 1776. The impression from which the seal was made was found upon a document signed by President Mifflin in 1784.

There are a few attributes in this small seal which go to disprove that it existed as early as 1776; named by the thirteen Stars, the clouds, and the motto in question. We know that the Stars were not considered nor ever used in a National sense prior to the adoption of the Star Spangled Banner, June 14, 1777, and we also learned that immediately after the signing of the Declaration, that a committee on Great Seal was appointed, and in their

report suggested as a National motto, the Latin phrase *"E Pluribus Unum."* It is highly probable that the Seal of the continental president was not drafted nor used until long in 1783-4. The present Seal of the President of the United States is round with the American Eagle upon it.

Unauthentic sources of our motto.—We will next engage a few moments of our time to disprove some of the attributed sources of our National motto; and in so doing will give the most liable first and least authentic last.

First unauthentic source.—Of late, several writers have advanced the claim that our forefathers, in choosing the National motto, derived it from a modest metrical composition in Latin, written by John Carey of Philadelphia. This poem, entitled, "The Pyramid of Fifteen States," contains the following verse:

"Audax nide cohors stellis *e pluribus unum,*
Audax pyramidos tollit adastra caput."

Its title, "The Pyramid of the Fifteen States," gives conclusive evidence that the poem was written subsequent to the admission of Vermont and Kentucky to the original thirteen, which occurred in 1791 and 1792. And the title of the poem was probably suggested by the unfinished pyramid on the reverse of the adopted Great Seal. Thus we learn that this Latin verse did not contain *E Pluribus Unum* until about the year 1792, upwards of sixteen years subsequent to its appearance on the report of the Jefferson Conjoint device for a Great Seal.

Second unauthentic source.—Some harbor the idea that the motto was borrowed from what is known as the Kentucky Penny, which has on the reverse side a pyramid of Fifteen Stars, the same surrounded by the Latin phrase, *E Pluribus Unum.* Each star was intended to

represent one of the states and was designated as such by the initial letters of these respective states, the apexes of the pyramid being coped by the Kentucky Star. Beyond a doubt this penny, which in reality was but an English token, valued at one-half penny, was minted about the year 1793 or 4, and thus cannot claim the credit of having suggested our national phrase.

Third unauthentic source.—The origin of our legend has, by officials of the U. S. Treasury department, been ascribed to Colonel Reed of Uxbridge, Massachusetts. But this theory is not tenable, since the date of his having suggested it contradicts his claim. The motto, *E Pluribus Unum,* which Colonel Reed had upon a pattern piece of private issue, executed in copper, and the date of the same proves to be 1786. There is one thing that Colonel Reed may have done, and this we do not intend to dispute, and that is the fact that he suggested the idea of putting the motto, *E Pluribus unum,* on our coins; but we do emphatically disprove that it was he who originated the thought of having this Latin legend as our National motto.

Since it was not Colonel Reed who suggested it as an American legend, the question naturally arises, "Who did propose the grand motto, *E Pluribus Unum?*" The answer, although partially clothed in doubt, still enough truth and sufficient evidence manifests itself to demonstrate that the honor lies between two, viz., Jefferson and Franklin.

Jefferson, we remember, in his Conjoint Design for a Great Seal of the United States, had a scroll and upon this the motto, *E Pluribus Unum.* It is admitted that this was the first time that the Latin phrase was used in an American sense, i. e., with reference to the colonies. We

conclude that inasmuch as Jefferson was the first to use the motto, he being a well-read man, he searched for a significant motto and proposed the Latin legend.

But we also recollect that while Jefferson was devising this Conjoint Design his friends suggested many devices, and he found a special friend in Franklin and Morris. Hence it is probable that one of these two gen-

JEFFERSON'S CONJOINT DESIGN.

tlemen—Franklin most likely—suggested it to Jefferson. There is abundant evidence to show that Franklin was acquainted with the motto and that he, too, deserves the credit of having proposed it as our National legend. Franklin in those days had a reputation of knowing more maxims, sayings, mottoes, and legends than any dozen men of that age. His *Poor Richard Almanac,* which abounds with pert sayings, harvested for him the name "Poor Richard." This fact of his being well versed in

maxims does not, however, satisfactorily prove that he was familiar with the phrase, *E Pluribus Unum;* but his autobiography helps substantiate the fact that the phrase was likely to have been known to him. We learned in the Second Theoretical Origin of this motto that the *London Spectator* at the beginning of one of its attractive essays, contained this identical Latin phrase. Franklin, in his early manhood, had in his small library a few numbers of the *Spectator,* and, having good sense, perceived and admired in these essays their various merits. The desire to form this style of language on the model of the *Spectator,* took full possession of him, and in his life of himself, says the following regarding the *Spectator:* "I took some of the papers, and, making short hints of the sentiments in each sentence, laid them by for a few days, and then, without looking at the book, tried to complete the papers again by expressing each hinted sentiment at length and as fully as it had been expressed before, in any suitable words that should occur to me. Then I compared my essay with the *original,* discovered some of my faults and corrected them."

Now it is possible when he proceeded to analyze essay number 148 of the *Spectator* he came across a stumbling block, namely, *"E Pluribus Una,"* which happened to be the opening sentiment to that paper. He no doubt studied out the Latin meaning like he did in all previous essays, and in subsequent years, when the Gentleman's Magazine adopted *E Pluribus Unum,* as their motto, Franklin was again reminded of the same phrase in the *Spectator;* and in like manner when in search for an appropriate motto for the Colonies his mind's eye again reflected and chose *E Pluribus Unum.*

Regardless of who the modern inventor was or who in particular suggested the phrase, we Americans are highly pleased with the grand and exquisitely appropriate legend. The Committee on Seals were much at loss as to what motto should characterize the American nation, and it was after numerous propositions that *E Pluribus Unum* was adopted.

Here let it be noted that it takes skill to devise a good National motto, especially so in Latin. It must be good Latin—good sense—and in good keeping; dense, eliptical and significant. It should be without a verb, if possible, and easy to translate into all languages. The one in question—*E Pluribus Unum*—answers all of these decided terms; but it must be admitted that the ellipses could be variously supplied, namely: E (from) Pluribus (many) Unum (one) may suggest to the scrutinizing mind various ideas.

This Latin phrase has been rendered in translation to English as the appending diagram will illustrate:

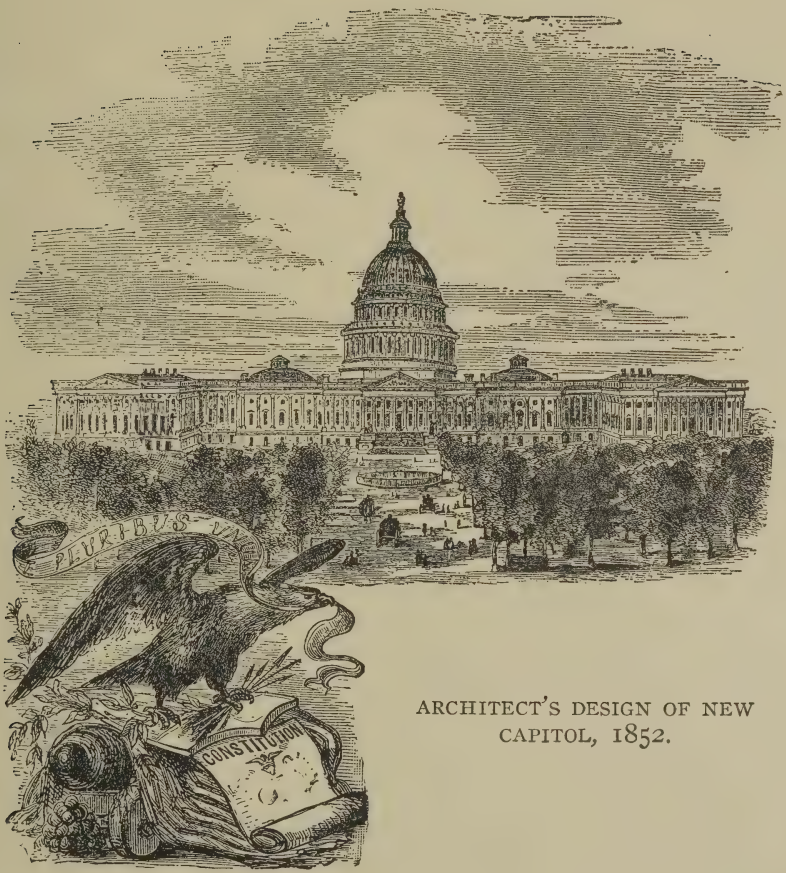
E Pluribus Unum	Many in one.
(From Many One)	Many to one.
	Many for one.
	Many within one.
	Many into one.
	Many contained in one.
	One from many.
	One of many.
	One composed of many.
	One out of many.
	One formed of many.
	Out of many one.
	Of many one.
	From many to one.
	Of many to one.
	From many but one.

We regret to tell, that among our most eminent Americans (up to the year 1865) the Latin phrase was translated to mean, many different thoughts, all of which on close study proved to be reasonable conclusions.

Hence the following four meanings of *E Pluribus Una* are given in order that we as Americans may be posted as to its significant interpretation; the first meaning is the true and now generally accepted one, the other three possible, but not probable:

First Definition: The Declaration of Independence which bound the *many Colonies* into *one Nation,* and put before the world a document soliciting governmental recognition, had this motto in hidden form. The *oneness* of our Country with the colonists from this date on was plainly and constantly present. and consequently when *E Pluribus Unum* was chosen it came to mean Many (*colonies*) in One (*Nation*).

Second Definition: The idea has been fostered by many, especially the foreigners, that, inasmuch as the American population is composed of people from all the many other countries of this earth, it is possible that our forefathers, recognizing this fact, intended to memorably represent these numerable emigrants in the national motto. Thus from many people, one race or nationality. And much proof can be gathered to prove that such an interpretation of our motto is possible; we know that both Du Semitiere and Jefferson cherished the idea of blazoning *many* shields in *one,* to designate that the many shields respectively represented the many people and that the many shields blazoned together represented the one American shield, and in turn the many people constituted the *one* American people. Nothing



ARCHITECT'S DESIGN OF NEW CAPITOL, 1852.

more thoroughly demonstrates this, than Jefferson's Conjoint Design where *E Pluribus Unum* is placed immediately before the *one* American shield, composed of *many* shields.

Third Definition.—When the motto was adopted, it may have been intended to signify that there was a new nation. The United States of America among the already many nations of the earth. The reason of this conception of the motto is from the fact that the *"E"* in the motto may, according to the Latin, mean *"from," "in"* and *"even," "among."* Hence, if the *"e"* in the legend meant *among,* the definition in question would be more tenable.

Fourth Definition.—Immediately upon the formation of our Government many of the leading thinkers were in doubt as to the real strength and meaning of our new national powers. The following definition of *E Pluribus Unum* by Alexander Stephens will demonstrate. He wrote as follows:

"They have no *specific* name for this new development or discovery in the science of Government. Hence the great variety of sentiments in the several State Conventions, some calling it a Consolidated Government, and some of its friends styling it a Mixed Government—partly Federal and partly National—Federal in its formation, and National in its operation. Of the latter class was Mr. James Madison, and, hence, also, some in later times have styled it a Composit Government.

"A little analysis and generalization may enable us to bring order out of this confusion. In one sense it is a National Government. In this, however, there is nothing *new* or *peculiar* in the Government established by the

new Constitution. In the same sense in which it is National, and none other, was the Old Confederation National. The United States, under that we have seen were called, and properly called, a Nation, for certain purposes. For the same purpose and in the same sense, and none other, may they now be called a Nation. Their present Government is National in the same sense in which the Governments of all Confederated Republics are National, and none other. The very object in forming all Confederate Republics, is to create a *new* and *entirely artificial* or conventional *State* or *Nation* which springs from their *joint* Sovereignties and which has no existence apart from them and which is the Corporate Agent of all those sovereignties creating it and through which, alone, they are to be known to Foreign Powers during the continuance of the Confederation.

"This Conventional Nation is but a Political Corporation. It has no *original* or *inherent* powers whatever. All its powers are derived—all are specific—all are limited—all are delegated—all may be resumed—all may be forfeited by misuse, as well as non-use. It is created by separate Republics forming it. They are the Creators. It is but their Creator—subject to their will and control. They barely delegate the existence of certain sovereign powers to their Common Agent, retaining to themselves separately all that absolute intimate Sovereignty by which this Common Agent with all its delegated powers, is created. This is the basis and these are the principles upon which all Confederated Republics are constructed. The New Conventional State or Nation thus formed is brought into being by the will of the several states or nations forming it, and by the same will it may cease to

exist as to any or all of them, while the separate sovereignties, or all its creators may survive and live on forever.

"A Government so constructed, being itself formed, on compact between distinct Sovereign States, is necessarily Federal in its nature, while at the same time giving National character and position amongst the other powers of the world to all the parties constituting it! In this sense all Confederated Governments are both Federal and National.

"The Government of the United States is no exception to the rule. In this sense Washington, Jefferson, and Jackson spoke of the United States under the Constitution as a nation as well as a Confederated Republic. In this sense it is properly styled by all a Nation. This was the idea symbolized in the motto, *"E Pluribus Unum"*—One from many. That is one State or Nation—one Federal Republic—from many Republics, States or Nations. This is what is meant by the Nation when properly applied to the United States."

But it is well that the main strength and majority of our country during the Civil War believed differently than Mr. Stephen and his constituents, for had they so believed, our glorious Nation would have been torn to tatters and its foundation uprooted. It may be that the Stephen idea was the correct one, but the results of our war prove otherwise and the German saying, *"Macht geht vor Recht,"* "Might is above and before right," is applicable. One fact in particular which goes to disprove the Stephen theory is this: Had the colonists intended that the Union of Colonies was to be a mere temporary association, joined together for the purpose of

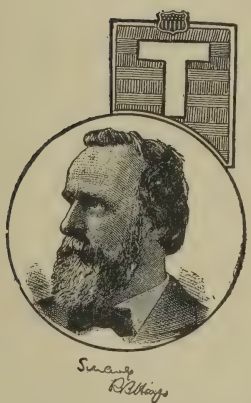
international recognition merely, our forefathers would have designated this fact by having adopted a motto something after this fashion, *"Junta in Unum," "joined in one."* But as it was they were far-sighted, perhaps more so than we give them credit for, and chose a motto that would signify undissolvableness, and this we have in *"E Pluribus Unum."*

CHAPTER XIX.

AMERICAN EMBLEMS—"OLD ABE."

"When Freedom, from her mountain height,
Unfurled her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of night,
And set the stars of glory there.
She mingled with its gorgeous dyes
The milky baldric of the skies,
And striped its pure celestial white
With streakings of the morning light;
Then from his mansion in the sun
She called her EAGLE-BEARER down,
And gave into his mighty hand
The symbol of her chosen land."

—JOSEPH DRAKE.



THE adoption of the Great Seal, on June 20, 1782, made the American Bald Eagle the emblem of the American people. The Eagle as emblematic of America was not an immediate choice, but on the contrary there were many objections to the proposition; and in fact many devices as emblematic of American traits and principles were displayed and universally adopted among the Colonies prior to the Eagle. Hence, the eagle being the last and accepted Emblem, we will study him subsequent to some of the earlier emblems; but before describing our colonial and national symbols let us give a passing thought as to the evolution of an Emblem.

In the general acceptance of the term an emblem is anything which by association of ideas appears to be a visible and suitable representation of some abstract quality; and again it is a representation of an object intended to signify to the senses something else than which it directly indicates to the eye. Thus the lamb is an emblem of meekness; the lion of courage; the dog of fidelity; the fox of craft; the ape of malice; the eagle of imperial power; the crown of royalty; the balance of justice; the sword of war; and the olive-branch of peace. Devices have been taken as emblems of persons, colonies and nations, hence the Bible gives as early as 1491 B. C. the emblems of the twelve tribes of Israel: 1. Judah, scarlet, a *lion*; 2, Issachar, blue, an *ass;* 3, Zebulon, purple, a *ship;* 4, Reuben, red, a *man;* 5, Simeon, yellow, a *sword;* 6, Gad, white, a troop of *horsemen;* 7, Ephraim, green, an *ox;* 8, Manasseh, flesh color, a *vine;* 9, Benjamin, green, a *wolf;* 10, Asher, purple, a *cup;* and Naphtali, blue, a *hind.* And thus through all ages of mankind emblems have figured as important symbols; and we in the search of knowledge pertaining to our country's emblems will be agreeably surprised to find valuable and profitable lessons which are taught by means of simple devices.

The rattle-snake came very near being our National Emblem, instead of the Bald Eagle.

The snake being indigenous to America, it had been early—in fact first—chosen as an appropriate symbol and had often been used on colonial flags. In 1774-6 some colonial banners had painted upon them a rattle-snake cut into eight parts, the head representing New England and the remaining parts designated as N. Y., New York; N. J., New Jersey; P., Pennsylvania; M., Maryland; V.,

Virginia; N. C., North Carolina; S. C., South Carolina; and G., Georgia; beneath the snake the motto "UNITE OR DIE." Many of the newspapers of those times adopted this device as head-piece when the Colonies were called upon to form a union as the best mode of securing their liberties. When that union had been perfected shortly after the Declaration of Independence, the device was changed to a united snake, typifying the consummation of the union of colonies.

Much discussion took place concerning the adoption of the rattle-snake as the National Emblem and weighty reasons were urged in its favor. Bradford's Pennsylvania Journal of December 27, 1775, contains the following speculations upon the reasons for the adoption of this emblem. This composition has been ascribed to Dr. B. Franklin without very good authority; Bradford's Journal was one with which Franklin was not friendly. He would have been more likely to have contributed his communication to the "Gazette," which was partly owned by his old partner, David Hill. But regardless of who claims the authorship, we give here this ingenious comparison between the Colonies and the rattle-snake:

"Philadelphia, December 27, 1775.

"I observe on one of the drums belonging to the marines now raising, there was painted a rattle-snake with this motto under it, 'Don't tread on me.' As I know it is the custom to have some device on the arms of every country, I suppose this may have been intended for the arms of America; and, as I have nothing to do with public affairs, and as my time is perfectly my own, in order to divert an idle hour, I sat down to guess what

could have been intended by this uncommon device. I took care, however, to consult, on this occasion, a person who is acquainted with heraldry, from whom I learned that it is a rule, among the learned in that science, 'that the worthy properties of the animal, in the crest borne,' shall be considered. He likewise informed me that the ancients considered the serpent as an emblem of wisdom, and, in a certain attitude, of endless duration, both of which circumstances, I suppose, may have been had in view. Having gained this intelligence, and recollecting that countries are sometimes represented by animals peculiar to them, it occurred to me that the rattle-snake is found in no other quarter of the world besides America, and may, therefore, have been chosen on that account to represent her. But then the worthy properties of a snake, I judge, would be hard to point out.

"That rather raised than suppressed my curiosity; and having frequently seen the rattle-snake, I ran over in my mind every property by which it was distinguished, not only from other animals, but from those of the same genus or class of animals, endeavoring to fix some meaning to each, not wholly inconsistent with common sense.

"I recollected that her eye excelled in brightness that of any other animal, and that she had no eyelids. She may, therefore, be esteemed an emblem of vigilance. She never begins an attack, nor, when once engaged, ever surrenders. She is, therefore, an emblem of magnanimity and true courage.

"As if anxious to prevent all pretensions of quarreling with her, the weapons with which nature has furnished her she conceals in the roof of her mouth, so that to those who are unacquainted with her she appears to

be a defenseless animal; and even when those weapons are shown and extended for her defense they appear weak and contemptible; but their wounds, however small, are decisive and fatal. Conscious of this, she never wounds till she has generously given notice, even to her enemy, and cautioned him against the danger of treading on her.

"Was I wrong, sir, in thinking this a strong picture of the temper and conduct of America? The poison of her teeth is the necessary means of digesting her food, and at the same time is certain destruction to her enemies. This may be understood to intimate that those things which are destruction to our enemies may be to us not only harmless, but absolutely necessary to our existence.

"I confess I was wholly at a loss what to make of the rattles, till I went back and counted them, and found them just thirteen, exactly the number of the colonies united in America; and I recollected, too, that this was the only part of the snake which increased in number. Perhaps it might be only fancy, but I had a conceit that the painter had shown a half-formed additional rattle; which, I suppose, may have been intended to represent the province of Canada.

"'Tis curious and amazing to observe how distinct and independent of each other the rattles of this animal are, and yet how firmly they are united together, so as never to be separated but by breaking them to pieces.

"One of these rattles singly is incapable of producing a sound; but the ringing of the thirteen together is sufficient to alarm the boldest man living.

"The rattle-snake is solitary and associates with her kind only when it is necessary for their preservation. In

winter the warmth of a number together will preserve their lives, while singly they would probably perish.

"The power of fascination attributed to her, by a generous construction may be understood to mean that those who consider the liberty and blessings which America affords, and once come over to her, never afterwards leave her, but spend their lives with her.

"She strongly resembles America in this, that she is beautiful in her youth, and her beauty increases with her age. Her tongue also is blue, and forked as the lightning, and her abode is among the impenetrable rocks.

"Having pleased myself with reflections of this kind, I communicated my sentiments to a neighbor of mine, who has a surprising readiness at guessing at everything which relates to public affairs; and indeed I should be jealous of his reputation in that way was it not that the event constantly shows that he has guessed wrong.

"He instantly declared it as his sentiments that Congress meant to allude to Lord North's declaration in the House of Commons that he never would relax his measures until he had brought America to his feet; and to intimate to his Lordship that if she was brought to his feet it would be dangerous treading on her. But I am positive he has guessed wrong, for I am sure that Congress would not condescend, at this time of day, to take the least notice of his Lordship, in that or any other way. In which opinion I am determined to remain, your humble servant."

During the fore part of the Revolution, especially in '76, the snake was variously painted on the Continental Flags; and the Navy in particular chose it as typifying the Union of the Colonies. Col. Gadsden of the Marine

Committee presented to Congress on the 8th of February, 1776, an elegant standard, such as is to be used by the Commander-in-Chief of the American Navy; being a yellow flag, with a lively representative of a rattle-snake in the middle, in the attitude of going to strike, and these words underneath: "*Don't tread on me.*" Congress ordered this presentation flag to be carefully preserved and suspended in the Congress room; and from that time it was placed in the southwest corner of the chamber, at the left hand of the President's chair.

But, as we know, the rattle-snake was not adopted as our National Emblem, perhaps from the fact that it as a serpent was under the curse of God—"Because thou serpent hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field"—and our forefathers well knowing this, sternly objected to the snake as typifying all the virtuous qualities thus far established by the Colonies.

About the time of the Declaration of Independence, the colonists were at battle devising an appropriate emblem of the newly created Union, and scores of emblems were suggested and many had a temporary existence and formal acceptance; among these latter we will learn presently.

Massachusetts, in the selection of an emblem, like in nearly all other steps for a sovereignty and Union, was first to manifest her desires. As early as 1652 a green pine tree was chosen as the favorite emblem of New England.

By order of the General Court that year a mint was established, and it was ordered that "all pieces of money should have a double ring with the inscription 'Massachu-

setts' and a tree (pine) in the center on one side and 'New England' and the year of our Lord on the other." This was strictly adhered to by the Mintmaster, Capt. Hull, for thirty years, and all coins now known as the pine-tree shillings, sixpences, etc., bore this emblem and the date of 1652. And when the colonists were initiated into the Revolution they preferred to distinguish their standards by having displayed upon them a pine tree. On the flags in the early part of their glorious war as adopted by the Massachusetts troop were the first sym-

COLONIAL DEVICE.

bols of unity of the colonies. The tree was to have thirteen branches, representing the Colonies, and the entirety to symbolize the Confederacy of the Colonies.

Another device during colonial times which demonstrated that the Colonies cherished the idea of unity is shown in a simple design found on a colonial paper bill dated March 5, 1776; this device, a candlestick composed of thirteen burners and the motto *"Uno Eodemque Igne"* —"one and the same fire"—was highly appropriate and referred to the unity of the Colonies.

Immediately after the battle of Bunker Hill the Continental Congress resolved that a sum of money not exceeding two million of Spanish milled dollars be emitted by Congress in bills (Continental paper money) of credit for the defense of America." And as a committee to have these bills prepared and engraved.

Congress appointed John Adams, John Rutledge, James Dimae, Benjamin Franklin and James Wilson. This announcement was the first public revelation of the existence of a committee appointed for such a purpose. The designs draughted and adopted by said committee were mostly original, presented in object form some of the spirit stirring sentiments of the time, and a few of these bills represented emblems suggestive of Union and Nationality. The denominations of these paper certificates were 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 20 and fractional dollars, and bore the designation of a bill of *The United Colonies* and Continental Currency.

On the 6-dollar bill was the figure of a beaver gnawing down a tree. The motto was *Perseverando*—by "persevering." The tree symbolized Great Britain in the contest, strong and overshadowing, claiming the right to tax the Colonies at pleasure and crush their industries by unjust navigation laws and monopolies of trade; the beaver, as emblematic of the United Colonies, assiduous, steady and faithful, represented the conscientious American, determined by steady persevering resistance not only to defend themselves, but to weaken the power of the oppressor by cutting off the main stay—the trunk of the royal foliage, and ultimately destroying the overshadowing forester. The beaver by patient application may subdue the largest tree; so might the Colonies, by patient in-

dustry and courage, subdue the colossal power of the British. This was the mute argument of this early Continental device.

On the 8-dollar bill there was portrayed a "Harp" with thirteen strings, and the motto *Majora Minoribus Consonant,* meaning "The greater and lesser ones sound together." The strings of the harp were of different

COLONIAL DEVICE.

lengths, yet they composed one instrument in a strong frame and sounded in harmony. This appropriate device was intended to represent the new government under the Continental Congress, as composed of provinces of various sizes and strength, but all working and responding harmoniously for the general good—made united in strength and purpose by the framework of Congress. This design, no doubt was objected to as an American emblem on account of the harp being representative of Ireland.

There were several other devices represented upon these Continental bills signifying National emblems and

accepted as such, but we will study them later on under the proper heading. We have learned in preceding chapters that ultimately the American bald-headed Eagle was chosen to represent the people of the United States; but before discussing our eagle let us determine how it came about that he was selected as our National Emblem.

Years, centuries, yea, even ages before the Americans

COLONIAL DEVICE.

adopted the Eagle as an emblem, this wonderful bird had been cherished and displayed as a symbol of various interpretations by many classes, races and denominations of people.

As the lion is king of beasts, so the eagle is the king of birds, and the latter as a symbol of power and greatness is of great antiquity. Thus according to the Holy Writ the eagle was a symbol of assistance as early as 1491 B. C., when we find Moses (Exod. xix:4) representing Jehovah as saying in allusion to the belief that this bird assists its feeble young in their flight, by bearing them upon its own pinions, and hence was a cherished bird among the Hebrews.

The great banner of the tribe of Dan, borne by Prince Ahiezer, was of a bright green color, charged with an eagle as a component part of the cherubine, denoting wisdom and sublimity. The eagle was considered to be the symbol of Daniel because he spoke with angels and received visions which related to all time; of Christ the eagle was the symbol because of his divine nature; and of St. John because he soars to Heaven in the Revelations. The eagle was also the insignia of Egypt; but the Etruscans are reputed to be the first who adopted the eagle as the emblem of royal honors and bore its image as a standard at the head of their armies.

Not less elevated was the symbolism of the eagle among the Pagans in later times. Thus the Greeks, as a symbol of their great god Zeus, chose the eagle, and in like manner the Romans in their mythology represented Jupiter with the eagle at his feet. Homer says "the eagle is the strong sovereign of the plumy race." And Xenophon tells us that "The golden eagle with extended wings was the ensign of the Persian monarch as early as 400 B. C., long before it was adopted by the Romans." "But the Persians," he continues, "borrowed the symbol from the Assyrians, on whose banners it waved till imperial Babylon bowed her head to the yoke of Cyrus."

Under the Roman republic the eagle was carved in wood; then in silver with a thunderbolt of gold in its talons. Cæsar was the first who had the eagle cast in gold, but he deprived it of the thunderbolt on which it had hitherto rested. As a mark of the eagle indefatigable activity and constant yearning after new conquests, the Romans always represented Cæsar's eagle with outstretched wings, as if seeking to inclose the entire world

in the grasp of its shadow. From the fact that the Romans so highly cherished the eagle it has become known

THE SNAKE AND EAGLE.

to the world as the "Roman bird," and we learn that as king of the fowl he was cherished and recognized.

But we as Americans are most interested in the American Eagle, and now let us try to learn what the

eagle symbolizes on the shores of Columbia; and also determine why he was chosen and adopted as our armorial emblem.

Perhaps the first to use the eagle in an emblematic manner on our continent were the natives, or Indians, who selected the outspread wings of the eagle as their emblems, and an eagle feather in their head-dress was considered a mark of distinction. Among the Indians the eagle was emblematical of speed and wisdom.

The first time that the eagle was displayed in the Colonies as an armorial emblem was in 1776 at the battle of Trenton, when the Hessians bore a standard as follows: It was composed of two pieces of heavy white damask silk; one side was embroidered with silk and gold—an eagle bearing in his talons an olive branch, and above the head of the eagle a ribbon upon which were these words: "*Pro Principe et Patria,*" meaning "For our principle and our country"— a curious motto for hirelings to bear. On the other side was the monogram composed of the letters E. C. T. S. A., supposed to be the initial letters of the commanding general's name. Under it the date 1775, and the whole surmounted by the British crown in token of their obedience as Hessians to the English throne.

Subsequent to the American triumph at Trenton we learn that the Washington Life Guard, in 1777, chose, among other devices on their flag, the American Eagle, and this is the first time that the eagle is used by Americans as an armorial emblem, and carried as such.

We next find the eagle on a New York colonial standard borne at the surrender of Yorktown in 1781. This flag had blazoned upon it the New York State arms,

which in brief consisted of an escutcheon supported by the goddesses of Liberty and Justice, with their appropriate symbols, and as a crest the American Eagle; the inferior motto *"Excelsior."*

And in 1782 we have learned that Will Barton, on his first design, which with slight modification was adopted as the Great Seal, had the American Bald-headed Eagle displayed in all his glory.

Now the question arises, what induced these American forefathers to adopt the eagle as their significant emblem, and we find that the answer to the query carries with it some doubt; still enough proof can be given to demonstrate for the eagle a purely American origin. It is possible that he was chosen from any of the foregoing sources, but it is most probable that the idea of the eagle emblematic of our Freedom comes from the Bible. We remember that preceding committees highly favored the idea of adopting as our national example the king-ridden children of Israel, viz., the Egyptians. And inasmuch as our forefathers believed that the Colonists, like the Israelites, were favored and led on to victory and freedom by God, they chose to symbolize their triumph by adopting the bird of which Jehovah spoke while addressing the successful Israel. And our forefathers being well read in the Scriptures, they certainly, in their careful research of Exodus to learn of the wanderings of the Israelites, undoubtedly came across the words and were agreeably impressed with what God told and promised the Israelites when he said, "Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians and how *I bare you on eagle's wings* and brought you unto myself. Now, therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my

covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people; for all the earth is mine." Exodus, Chap. xix, ver. 4 and 5. What was more likely than that the Colonists, after having been safely landed by God in the promised land of Freedom, than to reflect on the Israelites and adopt the eagle who successfully bore them to their triumph.

The following meritorious poem, written on the American Eagle—supposing this noble bird as soliloquizing, beautifully describes his characteristics:

I build my nest on the mountain crest,
Where the wild winds rock my eagles to rest,—
Where the lightnings flash and the thunders crash,
And the roaring torrents foam and dash;
For my spirit free henceforth shall be
A type of the sons of Liberty.

Aloft I fly from my aerie high,
Through the vaulted dome of the azure sky;
On a sunbeam bright take my airy flight,
And float in a flood of liquid light;
For I love to play in the noontide ray,
And bask in a blaze from the throne of day.

Away I spring with a tireless wing,
On a feathery cloud I poise and swing;
I dart down the steep where the lightnings leap,
And the clear blue canopy swiftly sweep;
For dear to me is the revelry
Of a free and fearless Liberty.

I love the land where the mountains stand,
Like the watch-towers high of a Patriot band;
For I may not bide in my glory and pride,
Though the land be never so fair and wide,
Where Luxury reigns o'er voluptuous plains,
And fetters the free-born soul in chains.

Then give to me in my flights to see
The land of the pilgrims *ever free!*
And I never will rove from the haunts I love
But watch, from my sentinel-track above,
Your banner free, o'er land and sea,
And exult in your glorious Liberty.

O guard ye well the land where I dwell,
Lest to future times the tale I tell,
When slow expires in smoldering fires
The goodly heritage of your sires,—
How Freedom's light rose clear and bright
O'er fair Columbia's beacon-height,
Till ye quenched the flame in a starless night.

Then will I tear from your pennon fair
The stars ye have set in triumph there;
My olive-branch on the blast I'll launch,
The fluttering stripes from the flagstaff wrench,
And away I'll flee; for I scorn to see
A craven race in the land of the free!

The distinguished ornithologist, Alexander Wilson, who made a special study of the American Bald Eagle, wrote of this bird as follows: "This distinguished bird, as he is the most beautiful of his tribe in this part of the world, and the adopted emblem of our country, is entitled to particular notice. He has been long known to naturalists, being common to both continents, and occasionally met with from a very high northern latitude to the borders of the torrid zone, but chiefly in the vicinity of the sea, and along the shores and cliffs of our lakes and large rivers. Formed by nature for braving the severest cold; feeding equally on the produce of the sea and of the land; possessing powers of flight capable of outstripping even the tempests themselves; unawed by anything but man, and from the ethereal heights to which he soars looking abroad at one glance on an immeasurable expanse of forests, fields, lakes and ocean deep below him, he appears indifferent to the little localities of change of seasons, as in a few minutes he can pass from summer to winter, from the lower to the higher regions of the atmosphere, the abode of eternal cold, and thence descend at will to the torrid or arctic regions of the earth. He is, therefore, found at all

seasons in the countries which he inhabits, but prefers such places as have been mentioned above, from the great partiality he has for fish.

"In procuring these he displays in a very singular manner the genius and energy of his character, which is fierce, contemplative, daring and tyrannical, attributes not exerted but on particular occasions, but when put forth overpowering all opposition. Elevated upon a high dead limb of some gigantic tree that commands a wide view of the neighboring shore and ocean, he seems calmly to contemplate the motions of the various feathered tribes that pursue their busy avocations below: The snow-white gulls slowly winnowing the air; the busy Tringae coursing along the sands; trains of ducks streaming over the surface; silent and watchful cranes, intent and wading; clamorous crows and all the winged multitudes that subsist by the bounty of this vast liquid magazine of nature.

"High over all these hovers one whose action instantly arrests all his attention. By his wide curvature of wing and sudden suspension in air he knows him to be the fish-hawk, settling over some devoted victim of the deep. His eye kindles at the sight, and balancing himself, with half-opened wings on the branch, he watches the result. Down, rapid as an arrow from heaven, descends the distant object of his attention, the roar of its wings reaching the ear as it disappears in the deep, making the surges foam around. At this moment the looks of the eagle are all ardor, and leveling his neck for flight, he sees the fish-hawk emerge, struggling with his prey, and mounting into the air with screams of exultation. These are the signals for our hero, who, launching into the air, instantly gives chase, soon gains on the fish-hawk; each

THE BALD EAGLE.

exerts his utmost to mount above the other, displaying in these reconnoiters the most elegant and sublime aerial evolutions. The unencumbered eagle rapidly advances and is just on the point of reaching his opponent, when with a sudden scream, probably of despair and honest execration, the latter drops his fish. The eagle, poising himself for a moment as if to take a more certain aim, descends like a whirlwind, snatches it in his grasp ere it reaches the water, and bears his ill-gotten booty silently away to the woods."

Although the American Bald Headed Eagle was adopted as emblematic of our Freedom, yet many prominent men at the time sternly objected to the eagle as our symbol; perhaps no negative argument attracted more general attention than did that of Dr. Benjamin Franklin, who we learn was greatly displeased at the choice. In a letter to his daughter, Mrs. Bach, Dr. Franklin writes regarding the Eagle as not appropriate, as a symbol of Liberty and an Emblem of the Americans. The War of Independence had ceased and in June, 1783, "The Society of Cincinnati," was organized at Newbury, New York, by the Revolutionary Army officers. Its objects were to cement by frequent re-unions the friendship they had formed in scenes of war. To commemorate the experience through which they had passed, and to spread good feeling through the States.

Of this society and the Eagle Dr. Franklin writes as follows:—

"My dear child:—

"Your care in sending me the newspapers is very agreeable to me. I received by Captain Barney those relating to the Cincinnati. My opinion of the institution

cannot be of much importance. I only wonder that when the united wisdom of our nation had, in the articles of Confederation manifested their dislike of establishing posterity from their fellow citizens, and form an order of hereditary knights, in direct opposition to the solemnly declared principle of their country. I imagine it must be directly contrary to the good sense of most of those drawn into it by the persuasion of its projectors who have been too much struck with the ribands and crosses they have seen hanging to the buttonholes of foreign officers. And I suppose those who disapprove of it have not hitherto given it much opposition from a principle somewhat like that of your good mother, relating to punctilious persons who are always exacting little observances of respect, that if people can be pleased with small matters it is a pity but they should have them.

"I wish therefore that the Cincinnati, if they must go on with their project, would direct the badges of their order to be more by their fathers and mothers, instead of handing them down to their children.

"It would be a good precedent and might have good effect. It would also be a kind of obedience of the fourth commandment, in which God enjoins us to honor our father and mother but has nowhere directed us to honor our children. And certainly no mode of honoring those immediate authors of our being can be made effectual than that of doing praiseworthy actions which neglect honor on those who gave us our education; or more becoming than that of manifesting by some token than it is to their instruction and example we ascribe the merit of those actions.

"Others object to the title as not properly assumed

by any but General Washington and a few others who served without pay. Others object to the bald Eagle as looking too much like a rooster or turkey. For my own part I wish the bald Eagle had not been chosen as the representative of our country; he is a bird of bad moral character; he does not get his living honestly; you may have seen him perched on some dead tree when too lazy to fish for himself he snatches the labor of the fishing hawk; and when that diligent bird has at length taken a fish and is bearing it to his nest for the support of his mate and young ones, the bald eagle pursues him and takes it from him; with all this injustice he is never in good care but, like those among men who live by sharping and robbing he is generally poor, and often very lousy, besides he is a rank coward; the little King bird not bigger than a sparrow attacks him boldly and drives him out of the district. He is therefore by no means a proper emblem for the brave and honest Cincinnati of America, who have driven all King birds from our country, though exactly fit for that order of Knights which the French call Chevaliers d'industrie.

"I am on this account not displeased that the figure is not known as the bald eagle but looks more like a turkey. For in truth the turkey is in comparison a much more respectable bird, and withal a true, original native of America. Eagles have been found in all countries, but the turkey was peculiar to ours; the first of the species seen in Europe being brought to France by the Jesuits from Canada and served at the wedding table of Charles the Ninth! He is, besides (though a little vain and silly, it is true, but not the worse emblem for that) a bird of courage, and would not hesitate to attack a grenadier

of the British Guards who should presume to invade his farmyard with a red coat on.

"I am, as ever, your affectionate father,

"B. FRANKLIN."

What Franklin said in his letter carried with it much truth and advice, but he and as well the reader will think differently of our American Eagle after reading about

OLD ABE, THE WAR EAGLE.

Among all the incidents of the great and eventful Civil War, few if any more remarkable incidents occurred than that an *eagle, the emblem of our country,* should follow a Union regiment through all the vicissitudes of a three years' service in the battlefield.

How well the white-headed eagle represented the Model Republic, let the incidents and facts related in this sketch demonstrate. Our Eagle—Old Abe—could tell Dr. Franklin how much military discipline he developed in the hearts of the Unionists, and thus brought forth the latent heroism of that unparalleled liberty-loving people, The Americans.

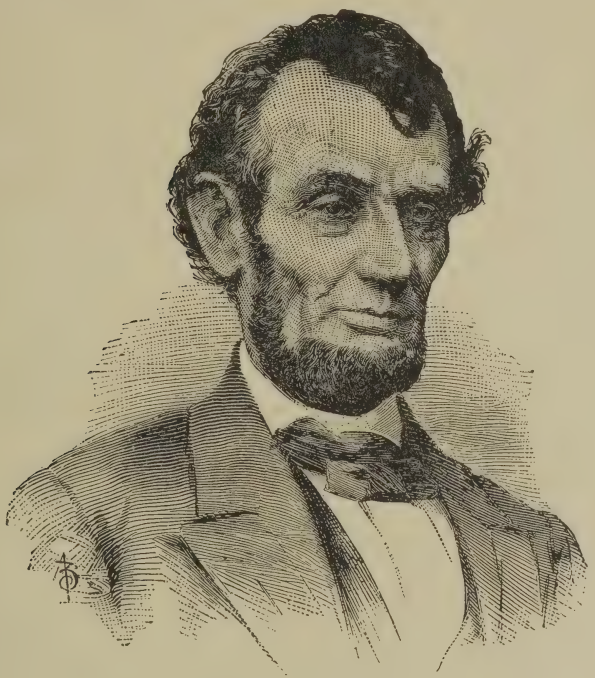
Old Abe, the Soldier Bird, is beyond a shadow of a doubt, the most famous bird that ever fanned the air or fought the storms of this earth. And he bears an unapproachable record which gave him a place among the cherished emblems of our beloved land. His name has been familiar to all armies, his adventures have found their way into song and story, and his almost tragic death touched the heart of many a war-worn veteran.

Old Abe was captured during the sugar making time in 1861, on the Flambeau River near the line between Ashland and Price Counties, Wisconsin, by a Chippewa

Indian named Chief Sky, who was the son of Thunder-of-Bees, Chief of the Flambeau band of the Chippewas. Thus in the northern wilds of the Badger State, in a large tub-like nest of mud and sticks on a tall pine was born our staunch symbol of liberty. Chief Sky and a few of his Indian friends having discovered the eagle nest, cut the tree down and amid the menaces of the parent birds, caught two young eaglets, of a greyish-brown color, about the size of prairie hens. One of the feeble young died from the effects of an injury which befell him while toppling the tree; the other—later to be known as Old Abe was taken home to the Indian village and there cherished as a plaything for the papooses, who called him *Me-Kee-zeen-ce* (Little Eagle). The red children were highly delighted with their new pet, and as soon as he became acquainted, he—Young Abe at that time—would play hide and seek in the tall grass, and play catch with the little Indian dogs. But Chief Sky was poor and he was obliged to sell the noble bird to a white man, Daniel McCann, of Eagle Point, for one bushel of corn. And for this paltry consideration, this noble fellow was sold from freedom to captivity; from barbarism to civilization; from the moan of pines to the clash of steel; and from obscurity to fame.

Mr. McCann, who was also needy, found it necessary to find a purchaser of the eaglet and consequently carried him to Eau Claire, Wis., and there for the sum of $5 sold him to a Mr. Mills, who in turn presented the eagle to a company of men who were organizing a troop for the defense of the Union. The volunteers at once determined to take the eagle with them to battle; "he's a recruit" they shouted, "and he *must* enlist"—and sure

enough he was sworn into service by putting around his neck the cherished colored ribbons—*red, white and blue,* and on his breast in token of the American shield, a rosette of the same colors.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

On the morning of the 6th of September, '61, the merry drum beat the muster roll with unusual vigor in Eau Claire, and every volunteer answered the call with an activity that betokened an earnest will; many soldiers even danced as they stood in line so stimulated with en-

thusiasm were they over the presence of the American Eagle; there seemed no time to reflect and think about the solemn duty and seriousness before them, all departed from their homes inspired to battle and die for Freedom's cause.

On a perch surmounted by *star*s and *stripes,* the young champion of liberty rested invested with all the airs of an imperial factor, and with the air fairly vibrating with hurrahs the company marched to Madison, the State Capital. As they arrived into Camp Randall, at Madison, with flying colors, beating drums, people cheering, the eagle although somewhat astonished seemed to thoroughly enjoy the novelty and intuitively seized in his beak one of the flags which lay below his talons and spread wings threw to the breeze our nation's standard. Shouts then rent the air:—"THE BIRD OF COLUMBIA, THE EAGLE OF FREEDOM NOW AND FOREVER! At Madison the State made him a new perch, it was a shield on which were painted our arms—stars and stripes, and the "boys" named their pet eagle "Old Abe" in honor of President Abraham Lincoln, the president and patriot; and the company which carried him was officially known as the Eighth Wisconsin, but more familiarly designated as the "Eagle Regiment."

On the march he was carried at the head of the troop and everywhere he was greeted with delight. At St. Louis a gentleman offered the Company five hundred dollars for their glorious bird; and subsequent to this an Illinoisian offered to give his farm, worth five thousand dollars; but Capt. Perkins of the regiment emphatically said "No money can buy him, he is as good as a flag and even better." He was above all price—an emblem of

battle and victory—and he interested the minds of the volunteers and made them forget hardship, and think less of their homes.

It was really amusing to witness the strange freaks and droll adventures of this soldier bird during his three years service—his flights in the air, his fights with guinea hens, dogs and any other living thing which would chance to arouse in him the sparkling eye of fight. Whenever the Regiment happened to camp near a creek or stream, "Old Abe" would run at large and the "boys" would take him to the ford and watch him as he would splash, screech and play while at his bath; oftentimes he would fly to the water unaccompanied, and when he had amused himself to his heart's content, he faithfully would return to the camp and in his knowing way try to tell the soldiers what a time he had had. Old Abe's favorite place of resort was the sutler's tent, where a live chicken found "no quarter" in his presence. At one time when rations became scarce, and for two days Abe had nothing to eat; hardtack he objected to; fasting seemed to him unnecessary; and his bearer could not get beyond the Confederate pickets to a farmyard. At last his bearer pushed his way to a Confederate Colonel's tent, and after a conscientious plea for the half starved bird, the Colonel gave him a pass, and Old Abe procured among some neighboring fowl, an excellent dinner. One day a farmer who seemed unusually pleased with the manner of the soldier bird, called at the Camp and requested the bearer to come and show the eagle to his children; and to satisfy the curiosity of the farmer and his family, he called and as per request set Old Abe down in the barnyard. But Oh! what a screeching and scattering among the

fowl! for Abe pounced upon one and gobbled up another to the great amazement of the farmer, who declared that such wanton behavior was not in the bargain. Abe, however, thought there was no harm in "confiscating" in time of war and hence regardless of his bearer's call continued routing the enemy.

Old Abe was not only an emblem of liberty but also of battle, and he certainly was a fighter; he witnessed upwards of twenty-five battles and more than thirty skirmishes. When the Unionists under Rosecrans were holding Corinth, and it was discovered by the Confederate General Price, that the Eagle Regiment was to take part in the attack, Price ordered his men "to be sure and capture 'Old Abe', if you cannot, try and kill him," adding that he "would rather get that bird than the whole brigade, or a dozen battle flags." The Confederates tried hard to take the Roman Bird, but ultimately failed, and several Confederate soldiers who were taken prisoners that day testified that Price said: "Any Confederate soldier who succeeds in capturing or killing 'Old Abe' I will give to this lucky man 'Free Pillage in Corinth!' and a memorable reward." The valiant Southerners did not triumph however but instead, these daring fighters were captured by the Eagle Regiment. During the lull preceding the storming of Corinth, as the enemy was preparing to fire, the Eagle Regiment was in the front of other Union troops, and the Eagle being exposed in the plain sight of the foe, a Confederate officer was heard saying "There he is—the Eagle—capture him boys." No sooner was this command given than the Southern artillery opened upon our forces, under whose cover a column just discerned in the gathering smoke, moved briskly

over the crest between the two armies to break and scatter our steady front, and capture the prize—Old Abe. All this while the Eagle scanned with firelit eyes every movement of the Confederates, and when he hove clear out of sight, he whistled a startling note of alarm, and instantly both armies struck each other in a deafening shock, and bloody struggle, with the boom of cannon and clash of steel that trembled forest and valley. Shouts from both sides rent the air, while death moved his bloody swath clear through both armies, and yet as the gory gap closed up, again and again the scythe of war cut it down. In the conflict the Eagle leaped up with a desperate spring, breaking the cord that held him to his perch, and was seen by the combatants, circling and careering in the upper sky; bullets from the Confederates fairly powdered the heavens where Old Abe reigned; feathers came dancing down, and through all the din of battle his loud shrieks were heard; but our Eagle rallied again and arose higher in the air, while shot after shot went up to bring down the American Eagle. But on Old Abe sped, towering above that awful din, screaming back to his assailants, eyeing the battle from the sky-eyrie and on catching a glimmer of the "boys" and the stars and stripes, he, as if inspired by the Roman god Jupiter, descended from aerial throne and like a "bolt of Jove" dove to his perch and with one loud eagle trill, announced the victory and triumph of the Unionists.

At the siege of Vicksburg "Old Abe" was more than a companion, as General U. S. Grant then in command, looked upon him as a companion and warrior; a sign and seal of victory. And in his Government report said of "Old Abe's" public service: "Finally after

forty-six days of struggle and privation, hardship and peril, and during sixteen days of which the average for each man was but a single cracker per day, the Federal Army, with the Black Eagle of Illinois (John A. Logan) at its head, and the Bald Eagle of the Union (our nation's emblem) at its left, entered Vicksburg and wild huzzas and the blaze of trumpets on July 4, 1863."

We next find our glorious bird with Gen. Sherman marching up the Red River, and while with this Roman, Old Abe retained his Roman dignity and repeatedly demonstrated that a grander emblem for our Union could never have been adopted; he not only represented the Union as a figurehead on the flagstaff, but he proudly on call to battle, answered and with great delight. The whiz of bullets and the crash of shells were his heights of joy. As the battle grew hotter and hotter, he would flap his wings and mingle his wildest notes with the thundering din around him. He was very fond of war music, especially Yankee Doodle and John Brown. Upon parade he always gave heed to the word *"Attention!"* With his eyes on the commanding general, he would listen and obey orders, noting when on march the time-step accurately. After parade he would put off his military air, flap his strong wings and make himself at home.

Old Abe seemed everybody's friend and every general in the Western Army, including Grant, Logan, Sherman, Seigel, Thomas, Pope and hundreds of under officers, thought him the grandest inspiration to the soldiers, making them mad with patriotism. Even the Confederates highly respected the War Bird, and when the Unionists were at Memphis, certain Confederate soldiers and citizens contributed money in order that the grand old

fellow might get meat for breakfast. They respected the living Emblem of that Union which at heart they loved, but conventionally arrayed against it.

Among the radical Southerners, the Eagle was known as "Northern Buzzard," "Old Owl", "Old Crow" and other harsh names, but his eagle nature was quite above noticing the slander.

At last the bloody Civil War was over and the brave Eagle Regiment, with their live Eagle, and torn and riddled flags were welcomed home to Madison.

In the fall of 1864, the Eagle Regiment presented Old Abe to the State of Wisconsin, and Governor Lewis accepted the illustrious gift and ample quarters were provided for Old Abe in the beautiful State Capitol, where hundreds have visited and admired him. Nor did the daring characteristics and the noble qualities leave him upon being confined to the State House, but he maintained his warlike spirit and seemed to hoist his dignity higher, believing no doubt that the American triumphs were due to his majestic presence.

At the Great Fair held in Chicago in the winter of 1864-5, Old Abe was the greatest attraction. He was placed in the "Eagle Department" central amid the exhibits of war from all parts of the country. Everybody went to see the famous bird. Prices for his quills or feathers rose as high as five and ten dollars each, but the demand could not be supplied; not a feather was allowed to be plucked from his beautiful plumage—not for any price. A rich western capitalist remarked that he would be willing to pay $10,000 for the Eagle. But Old Abe's popularity extended further, and the one and only P. T. Barnum offered $20,000 for the Nation's Eagle Emblem,

but even this enormous consideration was laughed at by the Wisconsin Executive, who simply declined the proffer, by saying that no money nor valuables of any character could be taken in exchange for Old Abe.

Statesmen, poets, warriors, editors, men, women of all professions and callings paid the Soldier Bird their compliments, but none showed greater respect and a reverence for him than did the Union Generals. At this Great Fair photographs of Old Abe were sold and netted to the fund for sick and disabled soldiers the handsome sum of $16,000; thus we see that the old fellow was very popular and was highly cherished by our liberty-loving citizens.

He had also been exhibited at countless popular and notable assemblies, in fact any and all patriotic National meetings for years subsequent to the Rebellion, Old Abe had been prominently borne in many national processions.

In 1876, when the American people so appropriately and meritoriously celebrated at Philadelphia, the first anniversary of our Independence, Old Abe was there in all his glory and proudly demonstrated his claim entitling the eagle family to the respect and patriotic love of the American folk. Thus at the Centennial of America the test of democratic government for a hundred years; what a convocation of people from all the earth; what a reminiscence of valor, what a pledge of National faith. Nothing at the entire exhibition, save old relics of war and bygone days, attracted more patriotic attention than did this "Plumed Knight" from the western wilds. Bryant thought of Old Abe and wrote those immortal lines:—

"What heroes from the woodland sprang
When through the fresh awakened land
The thrilling cry of Freedom rang."

Yes, the war was over, brothers that fought each other in days gone by, now in 1876, meet again hand to hand and heart to heart, with one *grand cheer for Freedom.* In the eyes of our National emblem, our tears comingled o'er our fallen brothers—Blue and Grey—our spears in 1876 once more crossed in solemn oath, to defend the Star Spangled Banner and the American Baldheaded Eagle. Thus perched on the Union Shield of Stars and Stripes our gallant warrior sat teaching our royal visitors, who gazed upon him, by his unquenchable fire of his patriotism, the lesson of ages, to them as to ourselves, that injustice even to one human being is so much governmental fealty lost; that compromise with oppression breeds the giant of Rebellion; that war comes as a painful necessity when we neglect to protect the inalienable rights of man; that liberty and justice are the cherished institutions of all races that have, or ever will inhabit this celestial globe.

The great sculptor. Leonard A. Volk, took a model of Abe, and several magnificent monuments have been graced with the counterfeit presentment of the eagle.

Old Abe lived but a few years after the Centennial, and his death, which was semi-tragic, spread grief to thousands of patriotic hearts. Towards evening of a cold day in the winter of 1881, a fire started mysteriously in a quantity of paints and oils stored in the basement of the Capitol near Old Abe's cage. The blaze created an enormous volume of black smoke which at once filled the cage to suffocation. Abe understanding full well what was going on around him sent forth such a scream as had never before been heard in that building. Attendants and watchmen rushed below to learn the cause

of the startling outcry, and before attacking the flames opened the cage door, and the eagle with another piercing screech swept swiftly out and away from the smudge. He seemed either frightened or injured by the smoke, for his breast heaved, his heart labored heavily and after a few days of serious illness the gallant champion of Liberty expired.

At first it was proposed to bury him with military honors, but finally it was decided to preserve him, and he now stands lifelike in the War Museum at the State Capitol, Madison.

Had our venerable patriot, Dr. B. Franklin, witnessed the sad fate of Old Abe, the Nation's Emblem, he would have gladly recalled the slanderous remarks he made of the Eagle family, and no doubt had Old Abe been buried in Franklin's time the doctor would have gladly accepted the melancholy duty of reading the Requiem and delivering the eulogistic oration.

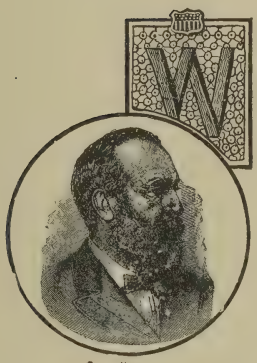
CHAPTER XX.

WAR AND PEACE.

"Sound, sound the trump of fame
Let Washington's great name
Ring through the world with loud applause!
Let every clime to Freedom dear
Listen with joyful ear;
With equal skill and ready power,
He governs in the fearful hour
Of horrid War, or guides with ease,
The happier time of honest Peace.

"Firm united let us be
Rallying round our Liberty,
As a band of brothers joined,
Peace and safety we shall find."

JOSEPH HOPKINSON (1798).



WAR and Peace ever have been close companions, and as the former often becomes a necessary evil, the latter always is sought as a happy end. And since war always precedes peace, we will study it accordingly first, and since so nearly related we will treat them in the same chapter.

WAR.

Arrows, since time immemorial, have been the symbol of war or battle, and the Scriptures is far from being the first book that speaks of the arrows as symbolizing *"trouble, bitter words and war."* Perhaps the reason why the arrowpoint came

to signify war, was from the simple fact that modern, ancient and prehistoric people employed this weapon in battle, and hence the mere presentation of the arrow symbolized attack.

The first instance in America of the arrows being used as a challenge in war dates back to early colonial times. Our New England forefathers early gained the good-will of the Indians and made a treaty of peace and mutual defence with Massasoit, the great and powerful Sachem of neighboring Indian tribes. The treaty was kept inviolate for upward of fifty years. Then the death of this great chief of the Narragansetts regarded the Colonists as intruders and sent to the Governor the ominous token of hostility, a *bundle* of *arrows* wrapped in a rattle-snake skin. The Governor accepted the hostile challenge and then returned the rattle-snake skin with powder and shot. These substances were new to the savages and they regarded them with superstitious awe, as possessing some evil influence. Conanicus so dreaded the powder and shot that he refused to touch the skin and ordered it to be carried to the different villages of the tribe. Conanicus then concluded never again to send arrows to the Colonists, and thus remained friendly and at peace with them throughout his entire life.

When the several committees on the Great Seal met, they were much at loss as to how they would indicate our spirit for war. Thus one committee represented war by means of a modern gun; another by a soldier in armor; a third by an Indian with his bow and arrow; a fourth by an American soldier in proper uniform bearing a bloody lance; and lastly we find a bundle of thirteen arrows as typifying war.

The arrows were proposed by Will Barton on his first design for a Great Seal, but the idea of thirteen arrows in a bundle as indicative of the union of the Colonies in case of war is not original with our friend Barton.

We learned that in bygone days the Colonists were indebted to Holland for many ideas regarding the union of Colonies, and that the United Provinces of the Neth-

COLONIAL DESIGN.

erlands, which consisted of seven provinces, proved to be a good example for the struggling Americans. Their national emblem is the red lion of Flanders, and in his paws he holds their symbol of war, namely, a sheaf of *seven arrows,* thus denoting the union of the seven provinces in time of war. Now it is very likely that the Colonists, who were familiar with the rise of the Dutch Republic, admired the simple and yet highly appropriate manner of blazoning the arrow points, and thus were eager to designate our union in a similar way.

Barton, in designing and proposing the eagle with

thirteen arrows in one of the talons, simply changed the Dutch lion to the American eagle and the seven Dutch arrows to the thirteen American ones.

Early in 1775, when the Continental paper money was first issued, we learned in a preceding chapter that the committee on finance proposed various emblems and symbols for the United Colonies; and we find on a South Carolina certificate, dated June 1, 1775, a bundle of arrows. The certificate is six inches in length and four inches in width, and bears in a circle a bundle of thirteen arrows with the words *"Auspicium Salutis,"* meaning "A Prestige of Safety."

In 1777, when South Carolina adopted a Great Seal for the State, it included in the device two bundles of arrows together containing thirteen points. Thus the State of South Carolina had adopted the arrows as symbolizing war upward of five years prior to their adoption on the Great Seal of the Union.

There is one thing of which every American may well be proud, and that is the fact that his government does not cherish war; and also that since our national existence our nation has never yet declared war further than was necessary for general protection. However, as is well known, we have had more than our share and experience in the field—where we have always been forced and driven—but, glad to say, always stood to the end and gained the day. The Americans heed the advice Polonius gave his son, namely, "Beware of entrance to a quarrel, but, being in, bear it that the oppressor may beware of thee."

But the United States does not intimate by this that they will never declare war, for all the past por-

trays is that the Americans cautiously and reluctantly enter battle, but they will anxiously open fire when they find that an aggressive foe is irritating or molesting any of our cherished institutions, as is shown in the symbolic language of the Great Seal, which contains the arrows. *The Arrows* are used in the seal to symbolize war, but

WAR AND PEACE.

are intended to be used merely for resisting purposes and not for aggression.

The Americans hope the sentiment of brotherhood will soon be universally diffused and a system of international code of morality established and generally accepted with an organization for putting it in effect. Hence the necessity of war would cease and all troubles agreeably compromised, thus fostering general happiness,

peaceableness and preservation of human life. Although the full realization of this state of things may never be attained, it is nevertheless the ideal goal to which all progress in America is tending, and in consequence mailed fleets, ironclad towers and gory bayonets will pass into history as curious weapons and instruments of bygone days of man slaughter.

PEACE.

The Olive Branch is the emblem of Peace and is the cherished symbol of the American people.

The Olive as an emblem of Peace and quietude dates back, according to the Bible, 2348 B. C., and in the Holy Writ we find during the deluge the following concerning the olive: "And the dove came in to him in the evening, and lo, in her mouth *was an olive leaf* plucked off. So Noah knew that the waters were abated (all was peaceable) from off the earth." *Genesis,* viii.

The olive tree in ancient times was the favorite among the Greeks and it was the symbol of the patron goddess of Athens, Minerva. How the tree came to typify peace will interest us, and thus briefly will tell.

Neptune and Minerva once had a dispute as to which of them was most famous among mythological gods. Both deities wished to found a city on the same spot, and referring the matter to Jove, the king of gods and men, he decreed the privilege should be granted to whichever would bestow the most useful gift on the future inhabitants of Greece. Neptune struck the earth with his trident and forth came a war horse. Minerva produced a green *olive branch,* dedicated an emblem of peace, and the people were so well pleased with Min-

erva's gift that Jove decided to give the verdict in favor of Minerva.

In later times, when Greeks or Romans desired peace they chose to signify their intent by wearing on their heads and carrying in their hands an olive branch.

But the olive branch signifies even more than peace, since it also is the symbol of Victory. And more than this, it, too, has come to mean resurrection and immortality. And among the ancient Greeks it had still an-

COLONIAL DESIGN.

other significance, namely, "great distinction;" thus their greatest warriors, statesmen and poets wear a crown of olive leaves.

Taking the arrows and the olive branch together, it signifies that we are ready, if need be, for war and also for peace. This idea comes from Du Semitiere of the first committee, who suggested as a motto *"Bello Vel Pace"*—"for War or Peace"—a motto highly appropriate for the idea intended, and several subsequent committees approved of the Frenchman's motto. In fact, the motto would do nicely on our present Great Seal as motto, thus definitely defining the meaning of the

arrows (war) and olive branch (peace). It might have been advisable, too, to adopt the saying, *"Peace at any price,"* and thus indicate our detestation for war.

The first time that the olive branch was used by Americans as emblematic of peace is on a Maryland Continental bill, dated December 7, 1775. This certificates is only three inches and a half in length and not quite three inches in width, and on the reverse has a brawny arm projecting from a cloud bearing a shield, and in the hand an olive branch. The motto, *"Sub Clypeo,"* meaning "under the shield." This denoted that the Colonies, armed for defense, offer and desire reconciliation and peace. And it may have meant, also, that they were prepared for war or peace, *Bello Vel Pace,* which Latin phrase was well spoken of as our national war cry. Another meaning that is gotten from this highly appropriate American device is that the Colonists would offer and solicit peace before entering in war, but if no reconciliation could be gotten they were ever ready for battle. It may be that this design, like the one on our nation's seal, namely, the arrows and the olive branch, intended originally to mean that "The best way to preserve peace was to be ever ready for war." The Roman statesmen fostered the *"Si vis pacem, para bellum,"* which, when translated, means, "If you wish for peace, prepare for war." The Englishman, Fox, told Henry VIII that "The surest way to peace is a constant preparation for war;" and it said that Edgar, surnamed "The Peaceful," king of England, preserved peace in those turbulent times (959-975) "by being always prepared for war."

This may have been the original and intended idea

of the olive branch and arrows prior to the adoption of the constitution in 1789, but since that time there is no doubt that these emblems of war and peace signify that the Americans will "endeavor to prevent war by

PEACE.

offering peaceable terms, which, if not accepted and war was inevitable, they are 'For War or Peace.'"

James Lovell, of the Committee of Seal of 1779, was the first to propose the olive branch as indicating one of our national characteristics, namely, peaceableness,

and following committees approved of the olive, and thus in 1782 it, with the other component parts of our Great Seal, was adopted.

Who has these arrows under control? The constitution says on this point: "Congress shall have the power to declare war; to raise and support armies and maintain a navy, and the President shall be Commander-in-Chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual service of the United States." And who in turn has the olive branch under control? On this the constitution informs us that "The President shall have the power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties (of peace), provided two-thirds of the Senators present concur."

Thus the wisdom of our ancestors has placed the power of declaring war, not in the hands of one—usually a despot—but on the contrary allowed indirectly every citizen of the land to have his voice, since in a Republic like ours "all are soldiers, all have their vote."

CHAPTER XXI.

THE STARS.

"Thirteen blazed at once in their new constellation,
The Daughters of freedom, a Star for each mate:
A new silver star is the fine augmentation
Of honor they granted for every new State,
As the Stars and the Stripes are our States interwoven,
Having grown thus from weakness to far-spreading might,
Then perish the villain who, wanting them cloven,
Would quench their resplendence in treachery's night."
—CHARLES J. LUKENS.

J. Q. ADAMS AND D. WEBSTER—VIS THE GREAL SEAL.

IN studying the composition of the Great Seal, we omitted the study of the Stars for later consideration; and in this chapter the significants of these heavenly bodies can with more propriety be learned.

Having already described the various devices suggestive of union, we now come to study the true and accepted emblems of harmony and union,—the stars. That the stars were intended to symbolize this one grand idea the following resolutions of Congress, passed June 14, 1777, will show: "Resolved, That the flag of the Thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white: That the Union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation."

This resolution was made public September 3rd, 1777, and Col. Thrumbull represents the flag made in pursuance of it as used at Burgoyne's surrender, October 17th, 1777.

From the above resolution and what followed it is apparent that the object of that resolution was simply to give the authorization of Congress to a color existing, so far as the stripes and part of the flag called the union were concerned; but it is worthy of remark that the character of the new emblem for that union is specially described as representing "a new constellation."

That the delegates of Congress were much at loss to what they would choose as representative of union, there is positive evidence, as we found early in our seal study.

A mailed hand grasping a bundle of thirteen arrows had been a device for privateers; but that was a symbol of war, and defiance rather than of union. A round knot with thirteen divergent floating ends was the beautiful device signifying strength in union, and was on the standard of the Philadelphia Light Horse. A checkered union of blue and white, or blue and red, squares might have answered, but the odd number of the colonies prevented that or any similar device. Thirteen terrestial objects, such as eagles, bears, trees, and flowers would have been absurd and equally so would have been the thirteen suns or moons; besides the crescent was the chosen emblem of Mohammedanism, and therefore unfitted to represent a christian people. Thirteen crosses would have shocked a certain portion of the delegates, who looked upon the cross as an emblem of popish idolatry. There remained then only the stars, and the creation of a new constellation to represent the birth of

the rising republic. No other object of heavenly or terrestial, could have been more appropriate. They were of like form and size, typifying the similarity of the several states, and grouped in a constellation, symbolized unity.

The use of some emblems of union different from the British crosses, the United States having declared themselves free and independent States, was eminently natural, but the description of the emblem substituted for them as representing a new constellation, involved the idea that some constellation in some way emblematic of union had been presented to the minds of those adopting this resolution. It may be said that the adoption of the star, as representative of a state, would naturally lead to the idea of a constellation; but, as the emblem to be altered was one of union, we are inclined to think that the first idea suggested was that of some constellation which of itself implied union, and that the representation of a state by a star was involved in it.

It is claimed of late year that John Adams proposed the stars as emblematical of our union, and phrased the Resolution, which passed Congress, to read, "That the union be thirteen stars representing a new constel'ation;" and the proof which we find in this chapter will go to substantiate that John Adams deserves this credit.

The question that now arises is, was there any constellation which implied union? The answer is, there was the Constellation Lyra. The next point is, to ascertain if the first flag displayed under this resolution bore that constellation. If not, in what form were the stars represented on that flag, and whether any connection can be traced from it to the constellation Lyra. Let us

first consider the fitness of the constellation Lyra to indicate union. In Charles Anthon's Dictionary of Greek and Roman antiquities, we find the following account of the Lyra.

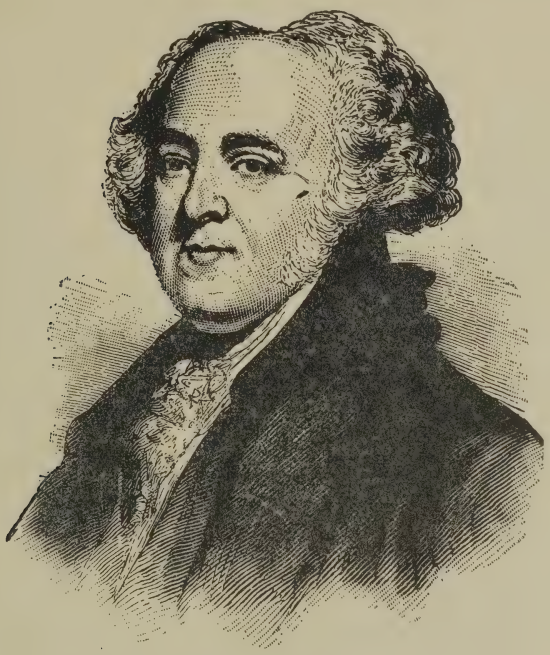
He says: "Lyra, the Latin name Fides which was used for a Lyre as well as a cithara, is probably the same as the Greek word, which, according to Hesychins, signifies gut-strings; but Festus takes it to be the same as fides (faith) because the lyre was the symbol of harmony and unity among men." The quotation from the Astronomicon of Manilius presented in the following letter from Mr. Charles Francis Adams, grandson of Mr. John Adams, written to S. Hamilton, confirms the attributes above ascribed to the lyre and its corresponding constellation Lyra:

"Quincy, May 18, 1852.

"Dear Sir:—Your letter of the fourth came to me unprepared to answer it without investigations, which I have ever since been hoping to pursue, but thus far in vain. Not a moment has been at my command since I received it, and as I am now expecting every moment to depart for Washington, I fear that I must give up the idea of doing more hereafter, at least in season for any object of yours.

"With the exception of a few letters to, and from Generals Green, Sullivan, Parsons, and Ward, there are no memorials remaining in my hands of my grandfather's services while chairman of the Board of War. He had no time to copy or record papers, so that very few are left. I am not aware of the existence of any journal or other record of the actions of the body, nor of any fur-

ther history of it than is given in his lately published diary. I am therefore wholly unable to give you any light upon the question of the origin of the American Colors.



JOHN ADAMS.

"With regard to the other design of the eagle with the lyre on its breast, and the stars of the constellation Lyra, I can only say that I possess the seal, which was the original for, in which it was presented. There it has the

motto, *Nunc sidera ducit,* taken from the Astronimicon of Manilius, describing the effect of the Lyre of Orpheus.

"'At Lyra, diductis per coelum cornibus inter
Lidera conspicitue, qua quondam ceperat Orpheus
Omne quod attigerat cantu, manesque per ipsos
Fecit iter, domint que infernas carmine leges.
Hinc coelistis honos, similisque potentia cansae:
Func silvas et saxa trahens; nunc sidera ducit
Et rapit immensum mundi revolubilis orbem.'

"II-331-337

"In my opinion, that although this last line does not appear, my father had it in his mind when applying the device to the American passport, but I have not had the leisure to look for any explanation he may himself left of it. His papers are voluminous and I have barely as yet glanced at any part of their contents. This must be my apology for sending you so unsatisfactory a reply.

"I am very respectfully, your obedient servant,

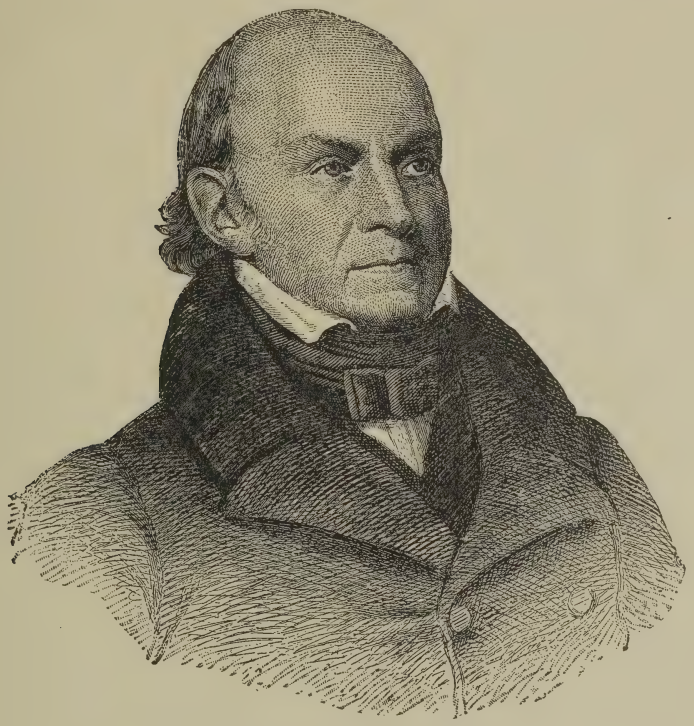
"CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS."

The following is a translation of the above quotation:

Conspicuous among the stars, its home widespread over the heavens, is the Lyra, with which Orpheus was wont to captivate everything to which he addressed his song, and even made a journey through hades itself and put to sleep the infernal laws. Hence its celestial honor, and by the same power with which it then drew rocks and trees along, it now leads the stars and whirls along the immense orb of the revolving world.

This last line shows that the constellation Lyra as an emblem of union for the United States would have

been an amplification of the attribute of "fascination" ascribed to the Rattlesnake as an emblem of union for the United States in the account we have already given



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

of the rattlesnake as such, in describing the standard of the commander-in-chief of the American Navy; for the constellation Lyra would not only imply that those who

consider the liberty and blessing which America affords, and once come over to her, never, afterwards leave her, but spend their lives with her, but that by their union and harmony the United States would whirl along the immense orb of the revolving world to follow their examples in their form of government.

Having thus shown how appropriate the constellation Lyra would have been as an emblem of the union of the United States we proceed to ascertain if the first flag displayed under the revolution of June 14, 1777, bore that constellation. In the Thrumbull's picture of Washington, the thirteen stars are represented as arranged in a circle; it now remains the existence of some record exhibiting a connection between the constellation Lyra and the circle of thirteen stars.

We find this record in a form for a passport of the United States, prepared under Mr. John Quincy Adams, when Secretary of State in 1820, which form has been in use many years. In adopting the form in question the arms of the United States previously used on U. S. passports, were replaced by a circle of thirteen stars surrounding an eagle holding in his beak the constellation Lyra, and the motto *Nunc sidera ducit.*

Mr. J. W. Stone of Washington City gives the following account of the preparation of the device above described in a letter to S. Hamilton.

In it the constellation Lyra is represented as radiating into a circle of thirteen stars:

"Mount Pleasant, Washington City, May 3, 1852.

"My Dear Sir:—I find on examination that on the 25th of August, 1820, I engraved for the Department of State, by order of J. Q. Adams, Secretary of State, a plate

for a passport, at the head of which was spread eagle drawn to encompass the constellation Lyra.

"The drawing was made by me, according to particular verbal directions given by Mr. Adams. I have a distinct recollection of having submitted the drawing to Mr. Adams for approval previous to engraving.

"Very respectfully your obedient servant,

"W. J. STONE."

Had not this device been substituted in the form for a United States passport for the arms of the United States by Mr. John Quincy Adams, we should not consider the constellation Lyra radiating into a circle of thirteen stars, as having any special meaning; but as at the time the circle of thirteen stars was introduced into the flag of the United States as an emblem of union, his father, Mr. John Adams, was Chairman of the Board of War.

On page 6, Vol. III, of the Life and Writings of John Adams, we find the following entry in his journal:

"The duties of this Board kept me in continual employment, not to say drudgery, from the 17th of June, 1776, till the 11th of November, '1777,' Again: Other gentlemen attended as they pleased, but as I was chairman, or, as they pleased to call it, president, I must never be absent." A change being contemplated in the emblem of union in the flag, the Board of War would doubtless have charge of the preparation of the substitute; and from the above, we perceive the chairman must have been particularly connected with its preparation.

We have thus presented the data upon which is based the conclusion that the constellation Lyra was originally proposed for the union of our flag, in 1777, at the time

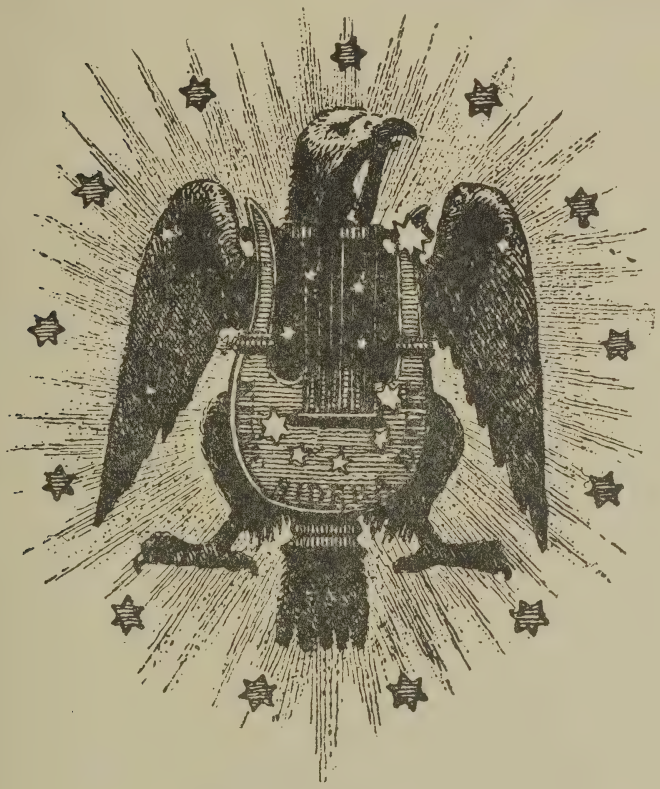
the circle of thirteen stars was adopted. The reasons for that conclusion are the following:

It was a Union flag that was to be altered. The United States having been independent of Great Britain, the British emblem of union was no longer appropriate; some other emblem of union was to be substituted.

The constellation Lyra was a time-honored emblem of union. The language of the resolution of June 14, 1777, evidently has reference to such an emblem representing a constellation. But the Lyra was not adopted. A circle of thirteen stars was their choice. Mr. John Adams was chairman of the Board of War at this time.

Mr. John Adams' son became Secretary of State in 1820. Striking out the arms of the United States, he presented on the passports a device representing the constellation Lyra, radiating into a circle of stars—the stars thirteen in number. At this time there were twenty-one states in the union—hence this circle of thirteen stars referred to an earlier day. The first instance of a circle of thirteen stars being used as a national device was in the U. S. flag, and its being presented on the passports must have referred to the use of it, as constituting it a well-known emblem of the United States, indicative of their union, while the constellation Lyra, occupying the center of this circle, indicates the origin of the circle of stars, as an emblem of union, "representing a new constellation" in the time-honored emblem of union. The other circumstances we have adduced point to Mr. John Adams as the source from which his son derived his information. We suppose the circle of stars was preferred to the Lyra because it indicated perpetuity of the union, which was distinctly intimated by the Rattlesnake Standard.

In the preceding pages we have established the origin of the part of the flag called "The Union," also



CONSTELLATION LYRA.

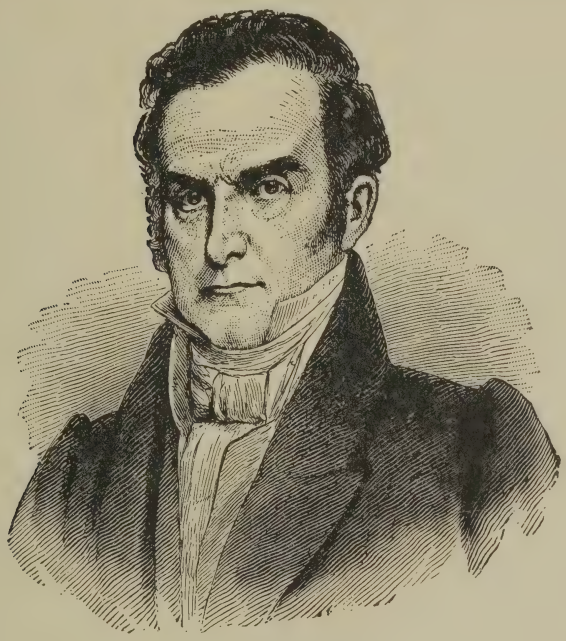
that of the circle of stars as an emblem for that union, together with that of the strips, as clearly as analogy will enable us to do.

John Adams, it thus appears, was the originator of the idea of symbolizing our Colonial and State union by the constellation Lyra, which in the hands of Orpheus signified harmony and Union. Lyra we find happily consists of the required number of stars, namely, thirteen, hence each original state in the thirteen united ones could be appropriately typified. Adams, as will be seen, intended to correctly represent the constellation, since he placed them on their astronomical position forming the basic points, of an imaginary Lyre. And he also significantly placed the colonial or State Stars; these he disposed in a circle about the device symbolizing the perpetuity of the union; the ring like the circling serpent of the Egyptians signified eternity. The three primary colors of America were also present, namely:

State Stars, red or gules; Stars of Lyra, white or argent; background and heavens blue or azure; shield or Lyre red or gules; Motto blue or azure; and eagle "proper."

It is difficult to determine the date of Adams' design. Mr. Adams primarily blazoned the constellation Lyra with the complimentary thirteen heavenly bodies surrounding the entire device. This idea of associating the United States with the constellation no doubt was in his mind, prior to June 14, 1777, the time of passage of resolution creating a National flag. But the eagle was at that early date unknown to this comparative design, and hence Adams completed his ideal Seal about the time that Will Barton proposed his first device which would date Mr. Adams' proposition somewhere in the fall of 1782. At this date Mr. Adams was in England, and, being informed of Barton's devices, and being ple ed

with the intent of representing the American eagle, he adopted this significant emblem to his original design, and added *Nunci Sidera Ducit.*



DANIEL WEBSTER.

Before he could send his cherished idea to America he learned that Congress has already (June 20, 1782) adopted a device for a Great Seal of the United States.

Thus in 1820, when John Quincy Adams was Secretary of State under President James Monroe, he gave color to the idea of perpetuating the name of Adams by

removing the Seal of the United States from the United States passport and substituting the favorite design of his father John.

The stars on the adopted Great Seal have all five points, while the stars on the Adams' Seal have six points. This difference sprang from the fact that the designs of the former followed the French system, while Adams copied after the English. We found when reviewing the science of Heraldry that the English in representing the heavenly body—the Star—gave the figure six points, and when giving but five, it symbolized the spur-rowel on the Knight's boot. It is a curious fact that the Great Seal and our Nation's Flag blazon the stars with five points, while the coinage of our country represent them with six. Here certainly is an inconsistency, since the stars on both are emblematic of the self same thing, namely, the heavenly lights. The only coinage containing the star with five points is the Washington copper penny of 1791. Our flag was originally designed with stars of six points, but the fair judgment of Mrs. Ross, who manufactured our first national banner, corrected the error, and the five-pointed star has ever remained on the American ensign.

On closely investigating the present Great Seal as regards the stars, we discover an interesting fact, namely, that it is not in exact conformity with the original idea of the designers. The divergence from the original is quite marked, and, in the judgment of a close observer, very injudicious. On the present seal we notice that above the eagle's head there are thirteen stars embraced so as to form one large star; this would seem to indicate that the thirteen original states were to be forever

the cherished stars that composed the Union ;thus barring all other and future states from being exponents or components on the Great Seal. How different and how much more suggestive was the original idea, which had the thirteen stars emerging from beneath the dark clouds. The beautiful and appropriate suggestion which was conveyed was that as the time advanced other stars would emerge from behind the mist and take their place in the national firmament. This was not only grand in conception, but prophetic in its application to our yet infant nation. This unwarranted change from the original design was doubtless the result of an unappreciative or unknowing engraver, who imagined the stars would look more artistic if arranged as on the present seal.

In the strict sense of the enactment, the Great Seal's Union of stars, like the Union of the flag, changes on the admission of new states. This, however, would cause some difficulty in that the nation's mark would need alteration on the admission of a new state.

CHAPTER XXII.

THE REVERSE SIDE OF THE SEAL.

(The Pyramid.)

"Our native land! to thee,
In one united vow,
To keep thee strong and free,
And glorious as now—
We pledge each heart and hand:
By the blood our fathers shed,
By the ashes of our dead,
By the sacred soil we tread,
God for our native land!" —*Rev. Bethune.*

THE Reverse side of the adopted Great Seal represents one idea, namely "that God has favored a new series of Ages, and He will cautiously watch o'er the pyramidal structure." Since the entirety presents the union of its component parts this single idea, we will study the several parts together and thus more closely combine the one grand thought intended; and in so doing we begin with

THE PYRAMID.

Will Barton in his last sketches to Secretary Thomson pictured on the reverse, the unfinished pyramid and other appropriate exponents which with slight changes

were adopted. And to him we must refer for the latest meaning of this pyramid, which he tells us, in the explanation of his design is as follows: "The pyramid signifies strength and duration." He certainly made a wise choice, since no other structure or thing made by man boasts of greater antiquity than do the seventy pyramids of Egypt. In order to fully appreciate the meaning of this grand symbol, let us hastily though conscientiously give a passing thought to these monstrosities of human workmanship; but scan the greatest of these,—the pyramid at Ghizeh built by Cheops some 4,000 years ago. What an antiquity! This pyramid was at least 2,000 years old when the Baby Christ was carried within sight of it, by his fugitive parents Joseph and Mary. The storms of forty centuries have drenched it, bombarded it, shadowed it, chilled it, and baked it, but there it still stands ready to take forty more centuries of atmospheric attack if the world should continue to exist. The oldest buildings of the earth are *juniors* to this great *senior* of the ages. Herodotus says that it took 100,000 men ten years to lay the foundation of this Mammoth structure. And that 360,000 men spent twenty more years completing it. This pyramid has 82,111,000 cubic feet of solid masonry: being composed of some 200 layers of stone ranging from two to five feet thick. To bring these layers of stone from the quarry and to lift them into position, machines were employed such as the world knows nothing of to-day. Its basic layer covers some thirteen acres, and is 450 feet high, higher than the cathedrals of Cologne, Strasburg, St. Peters, Washington Monument or even the dome of our National Capitol. No surprise to us that this gigantic structure was put

at the head of the seven wonders of the world. We wonder not that this mountain of limestone and red granite has been the fascination of scholars, of scientists, and of intelligent christians of all ages.

In the Holy Writ we find that Isaiah says of these pyramids: "In that day shall there be an altar to the Lord in the midst of Egypt and a pillar at the border thereof to the Lord. And it shall be for a *sign* and for a

REVERSE SIDE OF OUR SEAL.

witness." Isaiah 19. Ch. 20 V. The prophet Isaiah no doubt here referred to the great pyramid at Ghizeh, the chief pyramid of Egypt. He speaks of a pillar in Egypt and this is the greatest pillar ever lifted; and he says it is to be at the border of the land, and this pyramid is at the border of Egypt. But what did he mean when he said that this Cycolean Masonry would be "for a *sign* and for a *witness*"? This we will shortly determine, and with great satisfaction. Among other things—of the prolongations of human work as compared with the beauty of

human life, thus symbolizing antiquity and being directly the *sign* of strength and durability. In all the 4,000 years this pyramid has only lost eighteen feet in width, and most of this loss was suffered from architects who broke off stone from its base to furnish rock for buildings in the city of Cairo. The great army of men who constructed the pyramid labored but a few years and then put down the trowel, compass and square; they lowered the derrick which had lifted the ponderous weights; and after admiring their grand labor, died in its shadow. The pyramid still looks to the blue canopy above and exclaims: "I have withstood the storms: all Egypt has been shaken in terrible earthquakes; cities have been prostrated; lands have been swallowed; universes have changed; but I defy the mother earth either by internal or external revolutions to shock my foundation. I saw Moses when he was a lad; I watched the long procession of the Israelites as they started to cross the Red Sea, and Pharoah's host in pursuit of them; I stood here when Cleopatra's barge landed with her sorcerers, and Hypatia, for her virtues was slain in yonder streets. Alexander the Great, Lesostris Ptolemy, and Napoleon, Hannibal and Cæsar admired my geometrical proportions. Herodotus, Pliny and a thousand more have sounded my praise. I am old, yes very old and for thousands of years have watched the coming and going of generations, but I am yet young and strong and hope to live and see the human family all bound together with love and patriotism. And when all the inhabitants of the earth look up to a just ruler and they are all of glorious and prosperous Republics,—then Father Time may receive me in his Depository."

Thus we learn that Isaiah was correct in his prophecy,

that the pyramid would be a sign, for we find that this massive structure is the symbol of antiquity, strength and duration; but we have not yet discovered whether or not Isaiah predicting "that it would be for a witness," and now let us see what he meant.

In the days of Isaiah, the pyramids were believed to be merely high towers, upon which during war, or peace the Egyptians watched their province, and as well the astronomical changes. But we of the nineteenth century have discovered the real purpose, of these monstrosities and thus can fairly judge the words of the prophet Isaiah.

The Great Pyramid and the sixty-nine other pyramids still standing, were built expressly for sepulchers, all this great pile of granite and limestone, was erected to cover the dead body of a dead King, and establish his immortality in the memories of man. Hence Isaiah is right "it was for a *witness,*" of the burial place of the regality of ancient Egypt; but his words are still more verified as we will shortly see.

If after one is dead there is nothing left to remind the world of him, save some pieces of stone, then there is but little left. Some of the finest monuments are over people who amounted to nothing while they lived; while some of the worthiest men and women who have died have not had above them a slab large enough to tell their name. Joshua, the greatest warrior the world ever saw,—no monument; Moses, the greatest lawyer that ever lived,—no monument; Paul, the greatest preacher that ever converted man,—no monument; and thousands like eminent, who have wielded the sword or the pen for the good of mankind—have no monument to mark their final resting place: but their good deeds have brought forth for them,

more security in the hearts of people than worlds of monuments could get. Better have a shingle, over a worthy grave than a pyramid to cover the unworthiness of Pharoah's Kings and other tyrants who have doged the progress and happiness of all ages.

But why did our American forefathers adopt as a symbol the pyramid? For the simple and already assigned reason that it was the *"sign"* of strength and duration; and they directly intended to mean that the institution of America would be lasting and durable. But our foreign friends will ask, why did they choose to adopt a gravestone and monument symbolic of the United States, for such only were the pyramids? Yes, we Americans wish our unfinished pyramid to be looked upon, both as a gravestone and monument. Our pyramid figures as a "witness" and a gravestone, since beneath its weighty structure lies buried, oppression, tyranny, royalty, and all other attributes of regality. And the same pyramid as monuments stands out boldly and faces the azure canopy above, to mark the spot where freedom and justice first had their immaculate birth.

To Mr. Will Barton is due the credit of having suggested the unfinished pyramid with its grand significance, for the Great Seal of the United States. But the idea of associating the pyramid with American principles is not original with Barton, for we find that the unfinished pyramid appears on an early continental bill. The Fifty-dollar bill issued on September 26, 1778, has a picture of an unfinished pyramid. Thirteen layers of stone, representing the respective number of colonies, composed the pyramid. The motto *Perennis*—meaning *"Everlasting,"* or *"Enduring,"* surrounded the device. The pyramid in

this case contained an entrance, as did the ancient tombs, and clouds surrounded the structure. The incompleteness of the pyramid denoted the expectation that other states would be added in time; and the motto implied that the States, while in union would have an enduring existence. Union, Strength, and Perpetuity are the leading ideas of this early device.

EYE OF PROVIDENCE.

According to the adopted report June 20, 1782 "The *eye* alludes to the many and signal interpositions of Providence in favor of the American cause."

COLONIAL DEVICE.

This important symbol of the Supreme Being, is borrowed from nations of antiquity. Both the Hebrews and the Egyptians appear to have derived its use from that natural inclination of figurative minds to select an organ as the symbol of the function, which it was intended peculiarly to discharge. Thus the foot was often adopted as a symbol of softness; the arm of strength; the hands of fidelity; and the ear of attention. On the same principle the open eye was selected as a symbol of watch-

fulness and the eye of God as the symbol of divine strength and care of the universe. This impressive emblem tells us that the *All-Seeing Eye* of God is ever upon us as citizens of this grand Republic. If we were to prove recreant to our trust, and violate our obligations of allegiance, the men of the world might not know it; we might pass with them for men of honor and respectability; but "there is *one* whose eye never slumbers, whose presence fills immensities and whose glance penetrates the inky darkness of night." For the light of day and the darkness of night "are both alike to Him with whom we have to do."

The earliest reference to the ever watchfulness of God is found in the Bible; Hagar the hand-maid of Sarah was sent from home with her boy Ishmael. She had been provided with bread and a bottle of water by the Patriarch Abraham; but it was not long till the bread was gone and the water spent, and the poor woman saw nothing but death and starvation for herself and child. In her extremity she laid the lad down, imprinted the fond kiss of a mother upon his cheek and went away a distance for she said: "I will not see the child die." When she had given all up for lost, an angel showed her the well Lahairoi, where she at once procured water and saved the lad's life. She was so impressed with the manner in which she and her son were saved that she exclaimed "Thou God seest me." This exclamation of Hagar no doubt gave rise to the emblem in days of antiquity. The use of the symbol in this sense is found in the Hebrew writers. Thus the Psalmist, says (Ps. *xxxiv* 15) "The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry," and this explains a subsequent passage

(Ps. *cxxi*, 4) in which it is said. "Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."

In the Apocraplial "Book of the Conservation of God with Moses on Mount Sinai the eternal watchfulness of God is most beautifully described: Then Moses said to the Lord. O Lord dost thou sleep or not? The Lord said unto Moses, I never sleep: but take thou a cup and fill it with water. Then Moses took a cup and filled it with water as the Lord commanded him. Then the Lord cast into the heart of Moses the breath of slumber; so he slept and the cup fell from his hand, and the water which was therein was spilled. Then Moses awoke from his sleep. Then said God to Moses, I declare by all my power and by all my glory, that if I were to withdraw my *providence* a space of time as thou hast slept, the heaven and earth would at once fall to ruin and confusion, like as the cup fell from thy hand."

On the same principle the Egyptians represented Osiris, their chief deity. The open eye, was symbolic of this God and was seen in all their temples. And his symbolic name on the monuments was designated by the eye accompanying a throne.

To the Order of Freemasonry more than any other thing is due the fact of bringing the eye of providence down to this present day with all the true significance it had in those ancient days; and since many, yes, most of the leading patriots of the American colonies, were Freemasons, it is highly probable that they adopted it in a national sense, through having highly cherished it in the order of Masonry.

Du Simitiere was the first to suggest it, as appropriate on the Great Seal. Thomas Jefferson intended the pres-

ence of providence in his design by the *cloud* by day and *pillar* of *fire* by night thus indicating the watchfulness of God o'er Israel; and directly meaning Divine presence. Thomas Jefferson in his Conjoint design approved of the *Eye* and adopted the same. William Barton too cherished the idea; and had it prominently figure on his second and last designs; and to Barton we tender thanks for having suggested it as guarding and watching the unfinished pyramid.

The eye of Providence was also used on the early Continental paper money, for we find that the forty-dollar bill issued on Sept. 26, 1778, has it. In the center of the circle is an altar with a flame rising from it; over the altar and flame breaking from a cloud is the *All-Seeing Eye,* casting radiance over the whole field. In a circle around the altar are thirteen stars with the word *Confederation.* This vignette denoted that under the eye of God the thirteen independent States had Confederated and that upon *one* altar they had laid their precious sacrifices. The triangle surrounding the eye of Providence was added by Thomas Jefferson and its significance is enwrapped with doubt.

In ancient times the triangle was the symbol of harmony. Even at the present time in the science of music a triad (triangle) is a common chord of harmony, because it is formed of three radical sounds; a fundamental note or base, and its third and fifth triads are said to be major, minor augmented or diminished. This would lead us to believe that the triangle around the eye of providence, meant that God was in favor or, in harmony with the American cause.

But the most plausible meaning of this triangle is the ecclesiastical. A symbolical representation of the Mystery of the Trinity, frequent in Christian art. The symbol which has endured the longest is the mystic triangle, which may be found on the tombs of the early Christians to show that they believed in God. The triad forming this emblem or triangle is Father, Son and Holy Ghost. And thus the triangle on the Seal is to show emphatically that the eye in the center is the eye of Trinity or God.

The "glory" or rays of radiant light is also here intended to symbolize Divinity. It is as is well known greatness, splendor and glory of Providence; and it means on the Seal the Eternal Light of Wisdom with which the Supreme Architect will guide, and lead the colonies,—figuratively speaking through the Red Sea, or trouble. The rays all emanate from a common center or Providence, and this symbolizes that all light, progress, and happiness radiates from Him whom the sun, moon, stars, and comets obey. The glory is usually associated with the eye of Providence and all the designers so placed it.

ANNUIT COEPTIS.

Annuit Coeptis—Meaning "God had favored the undertaking." This Latin phrase means the about self same thing as the motto proposed by Will Barton, namely: *Deo Favente*—meaning "with God's favor." The origin of this highly appropriate phrase dates back centuries and centuries; on a Roman copper coin without date is found *Annuit Coeptis,*—"God has favored the undertaking" is no doubt a phrase of the early Cæsars.

NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM.

This uncommon and unusually misunderstood Latin motto, namely *Novus Ordo Seclorum*, meaning, *"A new order of Ages is born,"* is a quotation from the 4th Ecloque, was borrowed in turn by Virgil from the mystic Libythine records. The entire quotation is as follows: "The last age of Cumeau song now comes, *a mighty order of ages is born anew.* (*'Novus Ordo Seclorum,'* altered from *'Magnum saeclorum ordo'*)."

Another phrase similar to the one under consideration

COLONIAL DEVICE.

and one popular, during the Revolution was *"Et in secula Saculorum Flore scebit"* meaning, "It will flourish forever and ever—Through ages of ages." This motto appeared on the Eighty dollar Continental Currency of 1779. The Latin phrase surrounded the picture of an oak tree. The phrase is found in the Roman Liturgy—*Sicut erat in principio et mune, et Semper et in Saecula saeculorum*—translated,—"As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be for Ages after Ages." The oak tree thus was used as the American Emblem and the prophetic phrase enveloped the emblem of the Republic,

our forefathers endeavored to establish. Surely those who have read of the terrible storms to which the Republic—the oak tree—has been subjected since its existence, and the amazing strength with which it has resisted the hurricanes, have reason to believe that *"Annuit Coeptis, Novus Ordo Saeculorum,* (God has favored the New Order of Ages). *Et In Saecula Saeculorum Florescebit,"* (And it will flourish forever and ever through ages of Ages)," are mottoes of more than ordinary significance.

CHAPTER XXIII.

GREAT SEAL OF THE CONFEDERACY.

"Thou, too, sail on, O Ship of State!
Sail on, O Union, strong and great!
Humanity with all its fears,
With all the hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate!
We know what Master laid thy keel,
What Workmen wrought thy ribs of steel,
Who made each mast, and sail, and rope,
What anvils rang, what hammers beat,
In what a forge and what a heat
Were shaped the anchors of thy hope!
Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea!
Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee."

—H. W. Longfellow.

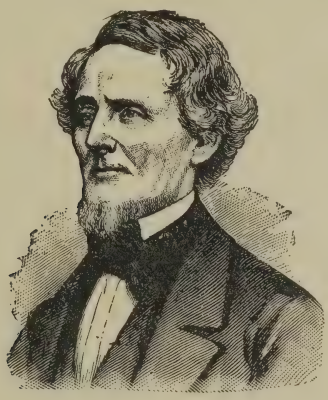
THE causes, of the *Civil War*—call it Rebellion if you will, deem it *Secession* if you please, had their origin in but one element, commonly known as States Rights. Prior to 1820 the exigencies of National development were such that the germs of dissatisfaction, found no sun of popular feeling to warm them into life and action. They were latent, however, and when the social and commercial interests and success of South Carolina and her near sisters were interfered with a storm arose which lasted for years. States Rights was a serious question even as early as

1780, and it was an issue which led the founders of our Constitution into weighty discussions and conflict. The first inkling of possible future difficulties over this question, broke forth in 1832, when the famous Nullification Act determined to resist the power of Congress, and establish the fact that a state could accept or reject Congressional measures at pleasure. At the head of this fatal theory was John C. Calhoun. This gentleman at the time was Vice-President of the United States, and so strong was the feeling in the Southern States against a central government that at a convention held in South Carolina, it was ordered that medals be struck off bearing the words: *"John C. Calhoun, First President of the Southern Confederacy."* This rash act on the part of a convention of excited and overzealous men, reached the federal authority at Washington, and when President Jackson heard of the news, he leaped from his chair and exclaimed: *"The Union! It must and shall be preserved! Send for General Scott!"*

Civil War was actually begun; but the calamity was averted by the promptitude and decision of President Jackson, who at once issued a proclamation announcing his determination to enforce the federal laws, and declaring the acts of the Carolina convention as treasonable; and in this document Jackson decisively declared that "To say that any State may at pleasure secede from the Union, is to say that the United States are not a nation." Thus the stanch "Old Hickory," held the reins and bloodshed was happily avoided.

But tranquility did not long remain, there was trouble brewing and in the bowels of the various national parties there was uneasiness, followed by painful gripings. When

on the 4th day of March, 1861, Abraham Lincoln took the oath of office as President of the United States, he found himself in the midst of trials and tribulations greater than had ever before beset any chief magistrate of our glorious nation. The election of Lincoln on a platform of Anti-State Rights principle, thoroughly excited and incited the Southern States, and immediately the work of secession



JEFFERSON DAVIS.

began in South Carolina, which state since Jackson's time had been the center of discontent.

A convention was called at which resolutions were unanimously adopted favoring secession and placing States Rights above Federal Law. This step was momentous, and the action was contagious. Within six weeks, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas passed similar ordinances, and their representatives and senators at Washington, resigned their seats and left to follow the fortunes of their respective states.

Just before the close of Buchanan's term delegates from the selected states met at Montgomery and formed a government called *"The Confederate States of America."* They elected Jefferson Davis of Mississippi as President, and Alexander Stephens of Georgia Vice-President.

Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas readily recognized the Confederacy and joined the Southern cause to test national supremacy. Thus what our grandsires might have settled with the pen, their sons were now forced to determine with the sword.

The first shots of the war took place at Fort Sumter April 12th, 1861, when twenty-five union soldiers fought against four thousand confederates, and ultimately surrendered the "Stars and Stripes."

Wild days followed; all America was convulsed by this event. The South was beside itself with joy,—the North aroused to patriotic anger. President Lincoln immediately called for 75,000 soldiers, and that number was more than reached by volunteers; and the confederacy too was alive to the issue. When the great civil war began, no one thoroughly understood it. Neither side quite knew what had so suddenly brought the fight about, the North believed the trouble would soon end,—a battle or two and the union, under the old flag, would go marching on. So they thought, but what a mistake—four years, with rivers of blood flowing through the nation. The war greatly surprised both sides and caught many an American in its abrupt storm of death.

The machinery of the Confederate States of America was soon in fair running gear, and as they prayed that success might crown their attempt they also began to

think of a symbol of sovereignty in the form of a Great Seal.

When the Confederate Government was founded at Montgomery, Alabama, it was early suggested that a seal

GEN. R. E. LEE.

be devised, but it took months of fruitless attempts to enact a law establishing a Great Seal. But while the delegates in the Confederate Congress were undecided as to what should properly constitute such a mark of Nationality, they were busily engaged seeking foreign recog-

nition. President Jefferson Davis appointed a joint commission to visit Europe and secure the recognition of the Confederate States by the European Governments. It consisted of Wm. L. Yancey, Alabama's most gifted orator, Judge Rost, of Louisiana, and A. Dudley Mann. Of the three, Mr. Mann was most intimately connected with the results.

About the time that the Confederacy was gaining foreign consideration the confederate representatives, and senators at Richmond, were busying their already well occupied minds, devising designs for a Great Seal. Several times in the Confederate Congress the question was brought before the legislators, that the C. S. A. (Confederate States of America) should have a symbol of nationality, but the greater majority of the delegates were not favorably taken with the step since their ultimate triumph, o'er the Union seemed doubtful. But in 1863 the Confederates flattered themselves having effected what they supposed some master strokes. Matters in Congress took a boom, as it were, and when the Seal bill was introduced, it passed without the aid of lobbying. Everything now wore a brighter tincture for the Confederacy, and it needed but little stimulus from foreign parts to create within the breast of the secessionists, a spirit of national pride.

According to Confederate Congressional Records, on September 25, 1862, the following bill passed the Senate:

"*Resolved by the Senators of the Confederate States of America:* That the Seal of the Confederated States shall be: In foreground a Confederate Soldier in position to charge bayonet; in the middle distance a woman with a child in front of a church, both with hands up-

lifted in the attitude of praying; for a background, a homestead in the plain with mountains in the distance beneath the meridian sun; the whole surrounded by a wreath composed of the stalks of sugar cane, the rice, the cotton, and the tobacco plant, the margin inscribed with the words: *'Seal of the Confederate States of America'* above, and *'Our Homes and Constitution'* beneath."

This bill failed to receive the necessary legislation and a few months later other designs were acted upon. In the spring of 1863 the Senate of the Confederate States, adopted the following as an appropriate design for a Great Seal:

"Resolved by the Senators of the Confederate States of America: That the seal of the Confederate States shall consist of: 'An Armed youth in Classic Costume Standing; beneath a woman is clinging. The whole surrounded by a margin of rice, cotton, tobacco and sugar cane. Motto: *'Pro Aris et Focis.'* The design surrounded by these words: *Seal of the Confederate States of America."*

This Bill failed to become a law since the representatives in the Confederate Congress disapproved of the Senatorial proposition.

Prior to the Spring of 1862, the Congress of the Confederate States was provincial; the permanent government of the Confederacy was not established until February 22, 1862. It was at the third session of the permanent governmental Congress, that the Bill passed both branches, and received the signature of President Jefferson Davis making it a law. This act, which established the Confederate Seal reads as follows:

(No. 4) *Joint Resolution to establish a seal for the Confederate States:*

"*Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States* that the Seal of the Confederate States shall consist of a

GREAT SEAL OF CONFEDERACY.

device representing an equestrian portrait of Washington, (after the statue which surmounts his monument in the Capitol Square at Richmond,) surrounded with a wreath composed of the principal agricultural products of the

Confederacy, (cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, corn, wheat and rice,) and having around its margin, the words: "The Confederate States of America, Twenty-second February, Eighteen hundred and sixty-two, with the following motto: *'Deo vindice.'*"

Approved April 30, 1863. (C. S. Statutes at Large.) And thus we have a succinct and accurate description of that which symbolized the once formidable but ephemeral Confederacy.

This adopted Great Seal of the Confederacy was purely the result of Confederate imagination. It was free from heraldic devices, save the inevitable man on horseback. This act in itself clearly describes and explains the significance of the Seal; there are but two things which it does not throw light upon: The first the equestrian statue of Gen. Washington; the second, the Latin Motto: *"Deo vindice."*

The latent meaning of the equestrian statue of Washington is easily understood, in its superficial significance, but the deep seated expression is less clear; the former stands to show that Gen. Geo. Washington too, was a Southerner; the latter that he too bought, kept and sold slaves.

The Southern States unanimously and continually boasted of their patron representative Gen. Washington; 'twas well, for certainly they were entitled to an extra glory in his name since he was born on territory which was under the jurisdiction of Southern citizens. But in as much as Washington was their particular great son, we must not convey the thought that he of necessity received only Southern comment and worship, for such would be a mistaken idea which would not only wrong

Washington, but all men, regardless of sections of country or party. Washington, though of Southern birth, of necessity did not cling to Southern principles or doctrines.

As regards his being a slave holder, it will be of interest and in place to determine what his opinion of the institution of slavery was, thus allowing us to properly judge "The Father of our Country."

Washington, we understand, held two views of the slavery question, as a man, he thoroughly disapproved of it; but as a statesman, and a citizen of a state wherein the institution was established, and of a federation, part of whose states accepted and part rejected the institution, he considered it advisable that it should be sanctioned, if not protected, by the central government. He favored the compromises of the constitution by which the abolition of the slave trade was secured, while the return of fugitive slaves was provided for, since he saw that no federation could be formed unless concessions could be secured from both slave holding and non-slave holding States, and he rightly regarded the political Union of the States of far greater value at that time, than the satisfaction of his individual opinion on the subject of slavery. And again when the fugitive slave law of 1793 was passed by Congress, it was approved by Washington, for this law was then regarded as necessary to insure the execution of the fugitive slave clause in the constitution. Still, Washington personally disapproved of slavery, and proved this by making full provision in his will for the emancipation of the slaves on his estate. He had, it is said, wished to do this before, but it was somewhat difficult to carry out the plans, as the slaves on his property had intermarried

with those belonging to the estate of his wife. Over these he had no authority, as they would legally pass into the possession of the Custis children.

His estate consisted of three thousand, two hundred and sixty acres, divided into five farms, each having its own overseer, its own barns, stables, and negro quarters. His slaves usually numbered between four hundred and fifty and five hundred, who were like so many children, in having to be clothed, fed, doctored, housed and directed by their master.

Under Mrs. Washington's own eye all their clothes were cut and made, and if sickness broke out in one of the quarters, it was General Washington himself who commonly visited and prescribed for them, often giving them their medicine with his own hands. Sometimes, in periods of epidemic, he would spend many hours of the night in their huts.

All good planters did so, and indeed we may justly boast that no slaves were ever so well cared for as those of George Washington. That is not saying much, but so much we can say.

He had endless trouble in getting his negroes to take proper care of his hunting horses, and hounds. It is only once recorded of him that he struck a negro with his own hands. On visiting his stable one morning, he observed that his favorite horse, which he had ridden hard the day before in hunting, had been allowed to stand all night ungroomed. He took a stirrup-strap and laid it vigorously across the shoulders of the man who had been guilty of this cruel neglect.

In a letter to a friend, in 1783, Washington wrote: "The scheme which you propose as a precedent to en-

courage the emancipation of the black people in this country from the state of bondage in which they are held, is a striking evidence of the benevolence of your heart. I shall be happy to join you in so laudable a work.

"There is not a man living who wishes more sincerely than I do to see a plan adopted for the abolition of slavery. But there is only one proper and effectual mode by which it can be accomplished, and that is by legislative authority. This, so far as my suffrage will go will never be wanting. To set the slaves afloat at once would, I believe, be productive of much inconvenience and mischief, but by degrees it certainly might and assuredly ought to be effective." In 1786 Washington wrote: "I never mean, unless some particular circumstances should compel me to it, to possess another slave by purchase, it being among my first wishes to see some plan adopted by which slavery in this country may be abolished by law." In 1797 he wrote to Lawrence Lewis, his sister's son, that he wished from his soul that Virginia could see some way for the gradual emancipation of the slaves within her territory, believing that it might prevent much future mischief. In this, subsequent events showed that he judged rightly, but it is certain that though Washington earnestly desired the emancipation of the slaves, he believed that this should be carried out by forms of law, and that it should not be left to the irregular masses of sectional agitations.

The Latin Motto on the seal, *"Deo Vindice"* God, the protector, defender, deliverer, or ruler, indicative to the Confederates, of the expected longevity of their nation because of divine protection and sustenance. The Committeemen, which presented the design of this Seal,

claimed for this Latin Motto, a somewhat stronger interpretation, namely: "With God for our Leader we will conquer."

The Savannah Morning News of May 1st, 1863, in an editorial by Editor Thomson says: "The Confederate Congress has at length adopted a Great Seal which we think is both appropriate and in good taste." And after describing the Seal, as per Act, he continues, "This device and Motto will be approved by the good taste and the moral sentiment of our people, and now it only remains for Congress to adopt an appropriate flag for the Confederacy, in order that we may present to the world a symbol as well as the power and substance of a great and glorious nationality."

Accordingly the Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Secretary of State, of the Confederate States, in his dispatch of May 20, 1863, (No. 23) To the Hon. James M. Mason, Commissioner, of the Confederate States, to the government of Great Britain, expresses the will of Congress with regard to the proposed Seal in the following very judicious and interesting manner:

"Department of State,
"Richmond, May 20, 1863.

"Hon. James M. Mason,
"Etc., Etc., Etc., London.

"Sir:—

"Congress has passed a law establishing a Seal for the Confederate States. I have concluded to get the work executed in England, and request that you will do me the favor to supervise it. You will receive herewith a copy of the Act of Congress describing the seal, and a photographic view of the Statue of Washington. The photo-

graph represents the horse as standing on the summit of an obelisk, but in the Seal the base ought to be the earth, as the representation is to be of a horseman, and not of a statue. The size desired for the Seal is the circle on the back of the photograph. The outer margin will give space for the words: *'The Confederate States of America, 22nd, February,* 1862.' I do not think it necessary that the date should be expressed in words, the figures *22,* 1862, being sufficient compliance with the requirement of the law. Indeed I know that in the drawing submitted to the committeee that devised the Seal, the date was in figures and not in words. There is not room for the date in words on the circumference of the Seal without reducing the size of the letters so much as to injure the effect. In regard to the wreath and the Motto, they must be placed as your taste and that of the artist shall suggest, but it is not deemed imperative, under the words of the act, that *all* the agricultural products (cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, corn, wheat and rice,) should find a place on the wreath. They are stated rather as examples. I am inclined to think that in so small a space as the wreath must necessarily occupy, it will be impossible to include all these products with good effect, and in that event, I would suggest that cotton, rice and tobacco, being distinctive products of the Southern, Middle and Northern States of the Confederacy, ought to be retained, while wheat and corn, being produced in equal abundance in the United States as in the Confederacy, and therefore less distinctive than the other products named, may better be omitted, if omission is found necessary. It is not desired that the work be executed by any but the best artist that can be found, and the difference of expense between a poor and

fine specimen art in the engraving is too small a matter to be taken into consideration in a work that we fondly hope will be required for generations yet unborn.

"I am happy to apprise you that the information from all parts of the Confederacy is most encouraging as regards the growing crops. In the more southern portions of our Country they are just beginning to gather the wheat harvest, and no complaint is heard from any part of the country of rust or other injury, the production of wheat or other small grain will be very large this year, while that of corn will be enormous, probably enough for two years' consumption, unless some very unexpected and unusual calamity shall occur. Our enemies must find some other instrumentality than starvation before they succeed in breaking the proud spirit of this noble people. How it makes one's heart swell with emotion to witness the calm, heroic, unconquerable determination to be free, that fills the breast of all ages, sexes and conditions.

"What effect may be produced in Europe by the repulse at Charleston and the defeat of Hooker is not now even the subject of speculation among the people. It is the evident purpose of foreign governments to accord or refuse recognition according to the dictates of their own interests or fears, without the slightest reference to right or justice, and we have thus learned at heavy cost, a lesson, that will I trust, remain profitable to our statesmen in all future time.

"We have now, by our system of taxation so arranged our financial affairs as to be entirely confident of the ability to resist for an indefinite period the execrable savages who are now murdering and plundering our people and no prospect of peace is perceptible from any other

source than the growing conviction among all classes in the United States that they are waging a war as ruinous in the present as it is hopeless for the future.

(Signed) "J. P. Benjamin,
"Secretary of State."

We have been unable to find anything among the Confederate archives from Mr. Mason in reply to the foregoing instructions as to the seal until his dispatch to Mr. Benjamin, dated London, February 18, 1864, wherein occurs the following passage:

"In regard to the seal, too, I have now a report from Mr. Foley, who, it seems, has been some time absent from London. He says that the Artizan, Mr. Wyon, employed to engrave it, informs him that it will yet require six weeks or two months to finish it as he is very anxious to bestow upon it all the pains so important a work demands. He is executing it in silver (the metal the state seals of England are executed in) which offers the advantage of proof against rust so often destructive to seals executed in steel.

"The above is from Mr. Foley's note of the 10th instant from Dublin to me at Paris. He tells me, further that the cost of engraving the seal, including the press for working it will be eighty guineas and that it is customary in England to receive one-half the amount on commencing the work. He advises that I should confirm as it will at least prevent excuse for delay, and which I will do as soon as I can obtain the address of Mr. Wyon. I have the honor to be

J. M. Mason."

We next hear from Mr. Mason on the subject of the seal as follows:

"Paris, April 12, 1864.

"Hon. J. P. Benjamin,

"Secretary of State.

"Sir:—

"Before I left London I called on Mr. Wyon, the artist employed to make the Confederate seal referred to in my No. 4 and paid him forty guineas, equal to forty-two pounds, one-half the cost of the seal, in advance, and arranged that when it was ready it should be carefully packed, with the press, etc., in a box lined with tin, and put in charge of Mr. Hatze until it could be ready by the middle of May.

"I have the honor to be

(Signed) "J. M. Mason."

The official history of the Confederate Seal is well shown in the following dispatch from Mason to Mr. Benjamin and its appendix being the bill of the engraver, amounting to about $700 United States currency. The "directions for using the Great Seal of the Confederate States" we omit, as they relate to a purely mechanical subject.

"London, July 6, 1864,

"24 Upper Seymour St.,

"Portman Square.

"Hon. J. P. Benjamin,

"Secretary of State.

"Sir:—I have the pleasure to inform you that I send by Lieutenant Chapman, C. S. A., who bears this, the Seal of the Confederate States at last completed. It is much admired by all who have seen it here, and I hope you will approve it as a fine work of art.

"The Seal is carefully put up in a separate small box,

and Lieut. Chapman is charged under no circumstances, to run the risk of its being captured. He takes the route of Bermuda, via Halifax to sail on Saturday, 9th instant, and I ship to Messrs. Frazer, Trenholm & Co., by the steamer that takes him to Halifax two boxes containing the press, with a full supply of wax and other materials for the use of the Seal. Although not expressly ordered, in the difficulty of obtaining these in the Confederacy at present, at least of approved quality, I have thought it best to have them supplied here, all which I hope you will approve.

"The enclosed *duplicate* bill will furnish a list of those materials and prices. The *original* I have paid retained.

"I have requested Lieutenant Chapman to take charge of the boxes at Bermuda, and see to their safe delivery. To relieve him of expenses on the route, I have further requested Messrs. Frazer, Trenholm & Co. here, if they can do so, to pay the freight thence to the Confederacy, should they not go in a Government ship.

"Still it is possible that some part of this may not be done, and I have accordingly told Lieutenant Chapman, should any expenses in the transportation devolve on him, it should be paid promptly at the Department of State, which oblige me by having attended to.

"I have the honor to be, etc., etc., etc.,

(Signed) "J. M. Mason."

(Duplicate account)

"J. M. Mason, Esq.,

"To Joseph S. Wyon,

"Chief Engraver of Her Majesty's Seal, etc.

"287 Regent St., London, W.

"1864. July 2.—Silver seal for the Confederate

States of America, with ivory handle, box with spring lock and screw press	£84
3,000 wafers	4.10
1,000 seal papers	7
1,000 strips of parchment	18
100 brass boxes	1.65
100 cakes of wax	.7
100 silk cords	.65
1 perforator	5
3 packing cases lined with tin	.3
	£12210

By cash, 21 March, £42.
Settled by cheque for balance, 6th July, 1864."

The Confederate Seal as engraved by Joseph S. Wyon was brought to America and delivered to Hon J. P. Benjamin, who finding it satisfactorily executed, officially accepted the work. It has generally been accepted as a fact, that the Great or Broad Seal of the Confederate States of America was never officially used, this, at the present day proves to be a mistake since the seal as a symbol of sovereignty was affixed to several documents, which went abroad; and few of the official appointments, in the way of governmental officials and clerks had on the documents this symbol of authenticity and authority.

There are two questions relative to the Confederate Seal, which have of late been asked in vain but can now be explained. These questions are: Who were the designers of the device of the adopted Confederate Seal; and where is this seal at the present time?

The designers of the Confederate Seal were Hon. Thomas J. Semmes, and Col. A. R. Botelar, the former was at the time a Confederate State Senator from Louisiana; the latter of Shepardstown, Jefferson Co.,

West Virginia. Col. Botelar was during the Civil War prominent in the legal department of the Confederacy and ere the downfall of that government, recanted. He since has held position in the attorney-general's office at Washington.

The Seal since the dissolution of the Confederacy has been in the possession of Col. T. Pickett of Confederate fame.

The question arises: How came he in possession of this token of sovereignty? The answer is this: When the Confederate Government was forced from Richmond causing the surrender of the Confederates, many of the Confederate soldiers and supporters seized what few valuable governmental tokens they could, and speedily withdrew to the surrounding country towns. Among the various relics that were carried away was the new Seal of the Confederacy. Who it was that treasured it enough to seize and preserve it from the hands of the triumphant Federalists is not known.

For a time after the war, rumor had it that the seal bearer, fearing longer to carry and hide the token, threw it into a well along the way of escape. This however is incorrect, since Col. Pickett some years after the war, came in possession of it as the following letter from him to a friend in New York City will show:

"To Col. Charles C. Jones, Jr.,
"Attorney and Counsellor at Law,
"61 Wall Street, New York.

"My Dear Sir:—

"At considerable trouble and expense, I have been so fortunate as to rescue this interesting memorial from oblivion, and, possibly, a vandalic melting pot (it is of

pure silver, and weighs several pounds). I have had many electrotype impressions of it executed, and in deference to your antiquarian and archæological tastes and devotions to the Lost Cause, have the pleasure of handing you, herewith, the first one finished, which you may regard as a proof impression before letters.

"My object has been two-fold; first, to afford many of our compatriots an opportunity of possessing and holding *in memoriam* the *facsimile* of so *unique* and charming—in spite of so many sad recollections—a *souvenir,* for which purpose they will be offered for sale; and; second, to use the proceeds of the sale, less bare cost of the medals, cases, etc., in the relief of as many as possible of the needy and afflicted of the South, whose name, alas! is legion. And with this motive I beg you to suggest the name of someone in Savannah and in Augusta who would be willing to assist me, as agents, in this benevolent *sigillary* undertaking.

"With much regard, your friend, etc.,

"Col. John T. Pickett.

"N. B. The original Confederate Seal is in my possession."

To further prove that the Confederate Seal was not lost, and that Col. Pickett possessed the genuine, symbol of sovereignty the following certificate from the English engravers J. B. and A. B. Wyon who executed the Confederate Seal will authenticate:

"London, 6th March, 1874.

"To All Whom It May Concern:

"Having received from John T. Pickett, Esq., Counsellor at Law, of Washington City, in the United States of America, a certain impression of the Great Seal of

J. S. & A. B. WYON.
CHIEF ENGRAVERS OF HER MAJESTY'S SEALS.
MEDALLISTS JEWELLERS. &c
287 REGENT STREET. LONDON. W
STUDIO & WORKS 2 & 3 LANGHAM CHAMBERS. PORTLAND PLACE. W

6th March, 1874

To all whom it may concern.

Having received from John T. Pickett, Esqre Counsellor at Law, of Washington City, in the United States of America, a certain impression of the Great Seal of the Confederate States of America, obtained by the Electrotype process, we hereby certify that the said impression is a faithful reproduction of the identical Seal engraved in 1864, by our predecessor the late Joseph S. Wyon, Esqre, for James M. Mason, Esqre, who was at that time in London, representing the interests of the Confederate States of which the Seal referred to was designed as the symbolical emblem of sovereignty.

We may add that it has been the invariable practice of our house to preserve proof impressions of all important seal-work executed by us; and on a comparison of the impression now sent us with the proof impression retained by us we have no hesitation in asserting that so perfect an impression could not have been produced except from the original Seal. We have never made any duplicate of the Seal in question.

Witness our hands, the date above given.

J. S. & A. B. Wyon

the Confederate States of America, contained by the Electrotype process, we hereby certify that the said impression is a faithful reproduction of the identical Seal engraved in 1864, by our predecessor, the late Joseph S. Wyon, Esq., for James M. Mason, Esq., who was at that time in London, representing the interests of the Confederate States of which the Seal referred to was designed as the symbolical emblem of sovereignty.

"We may add that it has been the invariable practice of our house to preserve proof impressions of all important seal-work executed by us; and on a comparison of the impression now sent us with the proof-impression retained by us we have no hesitations in asserting that so perfect an impression could not have been produced except from the original Seal.

"We have never made any duplicate of the Seal in question.

"Witness our hands, the date above given.

"J. S. & A. B. Wyon."

Col. Pickett was at one time connected with the diplomatic service of the United States, before the Civil War, was the Confederate Minister to Mexico in 1861-62, and afterwards was with Gen. John C. Breckenridge in the Southwestern campaigns. On his death his voluminous correspondence and valuable state papers, were handed to his son, Theodore J. Pickett, Esq., of Washington; to this gentleman I am deeply indebted for generous responses to my numerous queries. Mr. T. J. Pickett, wrote and certified that he no longer possessed the seal and, that his father must have donated it to an appreciative friend.

Not being contented with this reply, I learned

through the editorial staff of the St. Louis Globe Democrat, that the Confederate Seal, was in the office of the South Carolina Secretary of State. Upon writing to that honorable gentleman, the following reply was received:

"Executive Department,
"Office of Secretary of State,
"Columbia, S. C., Feb. 7th, 1891.

"Dr. B. J. Cigrand.

"Dear Sir:—

"Your letter asking about the Confederate Seal was duly received and I send you herewith such information as I have upon the subject. I have had so many letters of inquiry about the seal that I allowed a photographer to take a photograph of it. You can get one by enclosing 50 cents.

"The Great Seal, finally adopted by the Confederate States was made in England, not long before the war terminated. It was designed by Hon. Thomas J. Semmes—then Confederate State Senator from Louisiana. The equestrian Statue upon its inner circle was copied from the Statue of Washington, in the grounds of the State House, at Richmond, Virginia.

"At the time of the evacuation of Richmond by the Confederates at the close of the war, the Great Seal was overlooked, and Col. John T. Pickett got possession of it. After peace was declared he sent it to England and had some copies of it taken, one of which is now the property of this office. The photograph taken of it by Mr. Reckling is very good and from that you can give an accurate description.

"I am in correspondence with some parties with ref-

erence to the seal, and will forward you cheerfully any further information I may obtain.

"Yours truly,

"J. E. Tindal,

"Sec. of State, S. Carolina."

In this letter we learn that in the office of Secretary of State, S. Carolina, there is but an Electrotype copy of the Seal. Not despairing in the search for this relic, I was informed by the War Department of its whereabouts, as follows:

"The archives of the Confederate Government form perhaps the most interesting set of historical relics in the possession of the government. They were at Richmond and gotten elsewhere, and handed over to the War Department at Washington. They have been carefuly arranged, and are now packed away from view in two or three rooms of the big State War and Navy buildings. They are *never* shown to visitors, and the greatest care is taken in regard to them. Among these relics is the seal of the Confederate States of America."

"Col. Pickett, before yielding the original Seal to its final depository, had Mr. S. H. Black, of New York make a limited number of faithful electrotype copies of the Confederate Seal, of which impression Col. Pickett speaks as follows: We trust that the loyal hearts of the North that which were so acutely sensitive to the sight of the Confederate gray shortly after the war, will not be distressed by the exhibition of this symbol of the long extinct cenfederacy—*aere perennius* thought it be. *Fuit Ilium! The alere flannan* is no part of our motive.

"These medals of the great or broad Seal of the late Confederate States are now ready for delivery to such per-

sons as may desire to possess a specimen. They are finished in gold, silver and bronze (i. e., *gilt plated, etc.*). Price, five and seven dollars each, according to the cost of the cases in which mounted. Orders will be received by Messrs. M. W. Galt, Brother & Co., jewelers No. 1107 Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C.

"N. B. They will not be furnished for speculative purposes; but to the charitable institutions at half price, being about prime cost. The number executed is limited. A statement shall be published of the number distributed and of the disposition made of the surplus proceeds."

Theodore J. Pickett, Esq., has kindly presented me with one of these medals of the Great Seal of the Confederacy and must say the workmanship on both the case and seal are artistic. And I feel under many obligations to this gentleman for information relative to this interesting subject.

In the spring of 1865 the bloody strife was brought to a peaceful close, all reasonable men were at once ready to join in repairing its wastes and forgetting its enmities.

The strength of our representative form of government was established beyond the shadow of a doubt, and from thence on, there is no North, no South, no East or West, but one grand and united folk, whose fidelity and patriotism is as steadfast as the rocks of the surging sea. Thus the enormous loss of life, and destruction of treasures were not in vain and no government on earth better stood the disastrous shock.

In closing this chapter there are no words more grand, patriotic as well appropriate, than those spoken by Abraham Lincoln, at the consecration of our National cemetery the Battlefield of Gettysburg. This speech of

President Lincoln's, though short, has passed into the treasured literature of our now and ever to be glorious nation. He spoke as follows:

"Four-score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

"Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation, so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of it as the final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to the cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain, that the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom and that the government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

CHAPTER XXIV.

MCKINLEY'S DEFINITION OF THE SEAL.

"The fathers sleep, but men remain
As true and wise and brave as they;
Why count the loss without the gain?
The best is that we have to-day.
And Time shall be the power of all,
To do the work that duty bids,
And make the people's council hall
As lasting as the pyramids."

—J. G. Whittier.

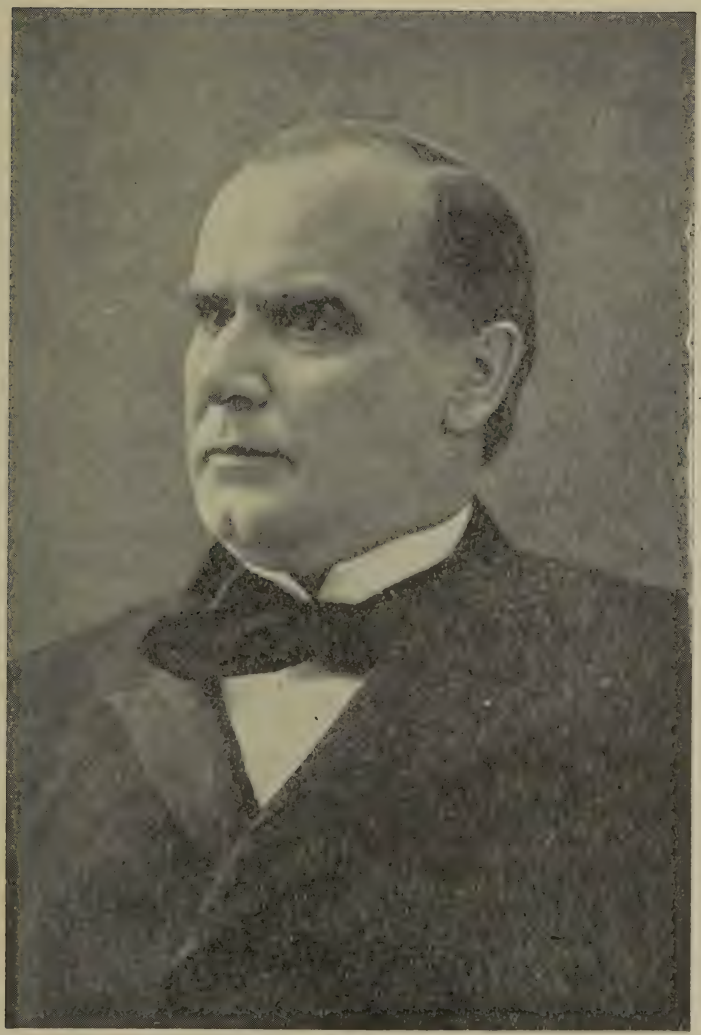
IN the latter part of September, 1899, a "proof copy" of the preceding chapters of the "Story of the Great Seal" was sent to President McKinley, he having previously manifested his interest in the theme. A fortnight subsequent to the receipt of the work he was a guest of the city of Chicago, and at the evening's banquet at the Auditorium Hotel he chose as his subject, "The Great Seal of the United States."

We believe this to be the first time in the history of our country that a president has taken occasion to make the Seal the subject of a public address. It was a remarkable appeal to the people to remain true and steadfast in their support of individual and national spirit of the nation.

The *Record-Herald* of the following Sunday, besides giving a large view of the banquet, contained of this book chapter XVIII, incorporating the patriotic address of President McKinley; and it is with his consent that this memorable speech appears as the twenty-fourth chapter of the "Story of the Great Seal."

The President spoke as follows:

"On the reverse side of the great seal of the United States, authorized by congress June 20, 1782, and adopted as the seal of the United States of America after its formation under the federal constitution, is the pyramid signifying strength and duration. The eye over it and the motto allude to the many signal interpositions of Providence in favor of the American cause. The date underneath, 1776, is that of the declaration of independence, and the words under it signify the beginning of a new American era which commences from that date. It is impossible to trace our history since without feeling that the Providence which was with us in the beginning has continued to the nation his gracious interposition. When, unhappily, we have been engaged in war, He has given us the victory. Fortunate, indeed, that it can be said we have had no clash of arms which has ended



EX-PRESIDENT McKINLEY.

in defeat, and no responsibility resulting from war is tainted with dishonor. In peace we have been signally blessed, and our progress has gone unchecked and ever increasing in the intervening years. In boundless wealth of soil and mine and forest nature has favored us, while all races of men of every nationality and climate have contributed their good blood to make the nation what it is.

"From 3,920,214 in 1799 our population has grown to upward of 62,000,000 in 1890, and our estimated population to-day, made by the governors of the states, is 87,803,231. We have gone from 13 states to 45. We have annexed every variety of territory from the coral reefs and cocoanut groves of Key West to the icy regions of northern Alaska—territory skirting the Atlantic, the Gulf of Mexico, the Pacific and the Arctic, and the islands of the Pacific and the Caribbean sea, and we have extended still further jurisdiction to the far-away islands of the Pacific. Our territory is more than four times larger than it was when the treaty of peace was signed in 1783. Our industrial growth has been even more phenomenal than that of population or territory. Our wealth, estimated in 1790 at $462,000,000, has advanced to $65,000,000,000.

"Education has not been overlooked. The mental and moral equipment of the youth upon whom will in the future rest the responsibilities of government has had the unceasing and generous care of the state and nation. We expended in 1897-8 in public education,

open to all, $202,115,548; for secondary education, $23,-474,683, and for higher education for the same period, $30,307,902. The number of pupils enrolled in public schools in 1896-7 was 14,652,492, or more than 20 per cent of our population. Is this not a pillar of strength to the republic?

"Our national credit, often tried, has been ever upheld. It has no superior and no stain. The United States has never repudiated a national obligation, either to its creditors or to humanity. It will not now begin to do either. It never struck a blow except for civilization, and never struck its colors.

"Has the pyramid lost any of its strength? Has the republic lost any of its virility? Has the self-governing principle been weakened? Is there any present menace to our stability and duration? These questions bring but one answer. The republic is sturdier and stronger than ever before. Government by the people has been advanced. Freedom under the flag is more universal than when the union was formed. Our steps have been forward, not backward. 'From Plymouth Rock to the Philippines the grand, triumphant march of human liberty has never paused.'

"Fraternity and union are deeply imbedded in the hearts of the American people. For half a century before the civil war disunion was the fear of men of all sections. That word has gone out of the American vocabulary. It is spoken now only as a historical memory. North, south, east and west were never so welded to-

gether, and while they may differ about internal policies they are all for the union and the maintenance of the integrity of the flag.

"Has patriotism died out in the hearts of the people? Witness the 250,000 men springing to arms and in 30 days organized into regiments for the Spanish war, and a million more ready to respond; and the more recent enlistment of 70,000 men, with many other thousands anxious to enlist, but whose services were not needed. Has American heroism declined? The shattered and sinking fleets of the Spanish navy at Manila and Santiago, the charge of San Juan and El Caney, and the intrepid valor and determination of our gallant troops in more than 40 engagements in Luzon attest the fact that the American soldier and sailor have lost none of the qualities which made our earlier army and navy illustrious and invincible.

"After 123 years the pyramid stands unshaken. It has had some severe shocks, but it remains immovable. It has endured the storms of war, only to be stronger. It stands firmer and gives greater promise of duration than when the fathers made it the symbol of their faith.

"May we not feel assured that if we do our duty the Providence which favored the undertakings of the fathers and every step of our progress since will continue his watchful care and guidance over us, and that 'the hand that led us to our present place will not relax its grasp till we have reached the glorious goal He has fixed for us in the achievement of His ends.'"

SUNDAY TIMES-HERALD, OCTOBER 22, 1899.

CHAPTER XXV.

TASKS AND TEMPTATIONS.

"Do not look for wrong and evil,
You will find them if you do
As you measure for your neighbor
He will measure back to you."

—ALICE CARY.

"Oh, noble men are they who dare to be
The champions of a poor and suffering cause
Inspired by love of right and liberty
The advocates of just and righteous laws."

—DAVID MACLURE.

IN colonial times there hung on the walls of the old Boston Library an oil painting which attracted the attention of young John Adams. The picture was not a large one, and few frequenters of the quaint reading room paid any considerations to the picture, or caught the moral which it portrayed. But few things escaped the keen sight of the "Plump Bostonian," and in later years when he was requested by the Continental Congress to suggest a design for a Great Seal

for the Republic his choice was that of Hercules standing between the goddesses of Virtue and Vice; he recalled the small painting in the home town library, and he clearly remembered its significance. When he reported to the Committee on Seal, of which he was a member, he eagerly advocated this design as embracing the true purposes of the young American nation; and he championed its merits, since it stood for the cardinal virtues and discountenanced the presence of vice. But the other gentlemen of the committee failed to catch the inspiration of the crude sketch submitted, though Adams insisted that if the original were seen the device would certainly be acceptable. The Adams suggestion lacked the support of Franklin and Jefferson, and so the Herculanean proposition died in committee.

The latent meaning of this picture captivated the mind of Adams and he was so imbued with its merits as symbolic of honor, courage and fortitude, that he described it at great length in a letter to Abigale, his wife; and in this affectionate message mentioned the essential qualities in this masterpiece of oil-art.

One hundred and twenty-five years have crept into the silent west, since Adams advocated in praiseworthy terms the truth and moral of the design, and though he met defeat in committee the picture still lives and now decorates the walls of the new Boston Library, and it continues its plea in the interest of Virtue.

The Adams idea was not accepted, though in spirit and essence it lived in one form or other through numer-

ous subsequent drafts for a national emblem. Though not incorporated into our adopted seal, it nevertheless has not gone unheeded by those who execute the will of the

TASKS AND TEMPTATIONS OF HERCULES.

people. Every president since the days of Washington down to our present administrator has recognized the fullness of the trust of their great office, and though unexpressed has eagerly sought to typify the heroic serv-

ice of Hercules. But it remained for the youngest of our executives to voice at a public gathering the underlying principles of the John Adams proposition; and President Roosevelt at the dedication of the new Chamber of Commerce at New York so vividly portrayed the true and modern Hercules, and so clearly vizualized the magnitude of the tasks and temptations of this Hercules government as figuring between Virtue and Vice that the oration will go down into history as the most logical and powerful word-picture on this theme ever delineated by any of our magistrates.

The gathering at which this address was delivered has become historic. The banquet hall, with its brilliant display of electric designs, the gorgeousness of the floral decorations as well as the abundance of prandial, together with the variety of national colors, crests, coats of arms, and seals, which lent tone to the function, all this magnificence and harmony inspired in the heart of President Roosevelt a reflective mood and in his eloquent address he paid a most sublime compliment to greatness and goodness as exemplified in the old time and homely virtues of our sires. In the presence of wealth and luxury he as the helmsman of a great nation, reminded the entire populace of the elements of true success and depicted in the primer-terms of our language the foundations upon which can be built the superstructure of character and good government.

In terms most strong and words most simple he rejuvenated the life and career of the goddess of Virtue.

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PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

This address of purest English, so fittingly complements the suggestions of Mr. John Adams that the "Story of the Great Seal" will be concluded in a most happy way by incorporating this significant and powerful oration.

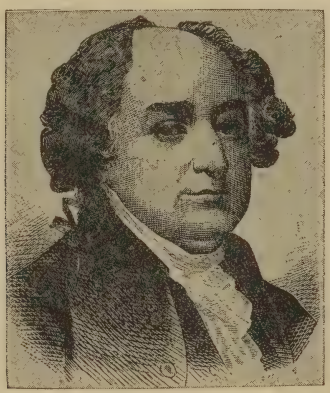
The address at its conclusion received a thundering applause of an audience of seven hundred guests numbering, among them ex-President Grover Cleveland, and the diplomats of all the nations. President Theodore Roosevelt spoke as follows:

"We have passed that stage of national development when depreciation of other peoples is felt as a tribute to our own. We watch the growth and prosperity of other nations, not with hatred or jealousy, but with sincere and friendly good will.

"I think I can say safely that we have shown by our attitude toward Cuba, by our attitude toward China, that as regards weaker powers our desire is that they may be able to stand alone, and that if they will only show themselves willing to deal honestly and fairly with the rest of mankind we, on our side, will do all we can to help, not to hinder them. With the great powers of the world we desire no rivalry that is not honorable to both parties. We wish them well. We believe that the trend of the modern spirit is ever stronger toward peace, not war; toward friendship, not hostility, as the normal international attitude.

"We are glad, indeed, that we are on good terms with all the other peoples of mankind, and no effort on our part shall be spared to secure a continuance of these relations.

"And remember, gentlemen, that we shall be a potent factor for peace largely in proportion to the way in which we make it evident that our attitude is due not to weakness, not to inability to defend ourselves, but to a genu-



JOHN ADAMS.

ine repugnance to wrongdoing, a genuine desire for self-respecting friendship with our neighbors. The voice of the weakling or the craven counts for nothing when he clamors for peace, but the voice of the just man armed is potent.

"We need to keep in a condition of preparedness, especially as regards our navy, not because we want war, but because we desire to stand with those whose plea for peace is listened to with respectful attention.

"Important though it is that we should have peace abroad, it is even more important we should have peace at home. You men of the chamber of commerce, to whose efforts we owe so much of our industrial well-being, can, and I believe surely will, be influential in helping toward that industrial peace which can obtain in society only when in their various relations employer and employed alike show not merely insistence each upon his own rights, but also regard for the rights of others, and a full acknowledgment of the interests of the third party —the public.

"It is no easy matter to work out a system or rule of conduct, whether with or without the help of the law giver, which shall minimize that jarring and clashing of interests in the industrial world which causes so much individual irritation and suffering at the present day, and which at times threatens baleful consequences to large portions of the body politic. But the importance of the problem cannot be overestimated, and it deserves to receive the careful thought of all men, such as those whom I am addressing tonight. There should be no yielding to wrong, but there should most certainly be not only desire to do right, but a willingness each to try to understand the viewpoint of his fellow, with whom, for weal or for woe, his own fortunes are indissolubly bound.

"No patent remedy can be devised for the solution of these grave problems in the industrial world; but we may rest assured that they can be solved at all only if we bring to the solution certain old time virtues, and if we strive to keep out of the solution some of the most familiar and most undesirable of the traits to which mankind has owed untold degradations and suffering throughout the ages.

"Arrogance, suspicion, brutal envy of the well to do, brutal indifference toward those who are not well to do, the hard refusal to consider the rights of others, the foolish refusal to consider the limits of beneficent action, the base appeal to the spirit of selfish greed, whether it take the form of plunder of the fortunate or of oppression of the unfortunate—from these and from all kindred vices this nation must be kept free if it is to remain in its present position in the forefront of the peoples of mankind.

"On the other hand, good will come even out of the present evils if we face them armed with the old homely virtures; if we show that we are fearless of soul, cool of head, and kindly of heart; if, without betraying the weakness that cringes before wrongdoing, we yet show by deeds and words our knowledge that in such a government as ours each of us must be in truth his brother's keeper.

"At a time when the growing complexity of our social and industrial life has rendered inevitable the intrusion of the state into spheres of work wherein it formerly took no part, and when there is also a growing tendency

to demand the illegitimate and unwise transfer to the government of much of the work that should be done by

ADAMS' DESIGN FOR SEAL.

private persons, singly or associated together, it is a pleasure to address a body whose members possess to an

eminent degree the traditional American self-reliance of spirit which makes them scorn to ask from the government, whether of state or of nation, anything but a fair field and no favor—who confide not in being helped by others, but in their own skill, energy, and business capacity to achieve success.

"The first requisite of a good citizen in this republic of ours is that he shall be able and willing to pull his weight—that he shall not be a mere passenger, but shall do his share in the work that each generation of us finds ready to hand; and furthermore that in doing his work he shall show not only the capacity for sturdy self-help, but self-respecting regard for the rights of others.

"The chamber of commerce, it is no idle boast to say, stands in a pre-eminent degree for those qualities which make the successful merchant, the successful business man, whose success is won in ways honorable to himself and beneficial to his fellows.

"There are different kinds of success. There is the success that brings with it the seared soul—the success which is achieved by wolfish greed and vulpine cunning—the success which makes honest men uneasy or indignant in its presence. Then there is the other kind of success—the success which comes as the reward of keen insight, of sagacity, of resolution, of address, combined with unflinching rectitude of behavior, public and private.

"The first kind of success may in a sense—and a poor sense at that—benefit the individual, but it is always and

necessarily a curse to the community; whereas the man who wins the second kind, as an incident of its winning, becomes a beneficiary to the whole commonwealth.

"Throughout its history the chamber of commerce has stood for this second and higher kind of success. It is therefore fitting that I should come on here as the chief executive of the nation to wish you well in your new home, for you belong not merely to the city, not merely to the state, but to all the country, and you stand high among the great factors in building up that marvelous prosperity which the entire country now enjoys.

"The continuance of this prosperity depends in no small measure upon your sanity and common sense, upon the way in which you combine energy in action with conservative refusal to take part in the reckless gambling which is so often bred by and which so inevitably puts an end to prosperity.

"You are men of might in the world of American effort; you are men whose names stand high in the esteem of our people; you are spoken of in terms like those used in the long gone ages when it was said of the Phœnician cities that their merchants were princes. Great is your power and great, therefore, your responsibility. Well and faithfully have you met this responsibility in the past. We look forward with confident hope to what you will do in the future, and it is therefore with sincerity that I bid you godspeed this evening and wish for you, in the name of the nation, a career of ever increasing honor and usefulness."

"You have succeeded in obtaining facts and information on a subject highly interesting; many historians have failed in this attempt, and among these are eminent writers."—BENSON J. LOSSING.

APPENDIX

HISTORY OF THE STORY

INCLUDING LETTERS FROM

Distinguished Americans

WHO HAVE HELD THE OFFICE OF

President of the United States

AND OFFICE OF

Secretary of State

APPENDIX.

HISTORY OF THE STORY.

The last lines of the preface explain why a history of the "Story of the Great Seal of the United States" is appended. It may be of interest to many of the readers to learn of the difficulties attached to the task of obtaining the facts upon which the story is founded. The most striking portion of the correspondence with the Department of State is given and the generous consideration of ex-Secretaries Blaine, Foster, Olney and Day are included, together with the valued communications of Hon. John Hay, Secretary of State. A like regard is paid to contributions from men who have occupied the highest office within the gift of the people. In fact, it was the patriotic impulses of these distinguished Americans that made it possible to publish the historic matter.

As early as 1888 a letter was sent to the Department of State, asking for information relative to the history of our nation's Great Seal, but the replies received contained so little encouragement that it seemed a hopeless task to seek knowledge on this theme. After an exchange of a few letters I was referred to the United States Treasury, and by this department brought in touch with the United States Mint. But neither offices were able to give much information, though a number of important items were gleaned from a variety of sources.

The Treasury Department informed me that the Department of State was custodian of the Great Seal and its history was stored away in the mammoth vaults, where the original designs, sketches, descriptions and all matter pertaining to the evolution of the Great Seal were deposited.

In the latter part of 1890 I again wrote to the Department of State for information on the history of the Seal, and made a few special inquiries and received this reply:

Department of State
Washington D.C. December 30. 1890

B. J. Cigrand, B.S., D.D.S.,

Sir:

In reply to your letter of 14th instant requesting to be informed how often and when has the device on the great seal been changed, and in 1820 when J. Q. Adams was Secretary of State did he use a new seal of his own device and why did he object to the old, I have to say, that the matter in question is not of official record.

I am sir,
Your obedient servant
Sevellon A Brown
Chief Clerk

In January of 1891 I again ventured sending an inquiry and received the following:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., January 10th, 1891.

"SIR:—In reply to your letter of the 7th instant, I have to inform you that your request cannot be granted, according to section 1794 of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

"SEVELLON A. BROWN, Chief Clerk."

Notwithstanding this cheerless note, I made another attempt, meeting with like discouragement, the letter reading:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., January 19th, 1891.

"SIR:—Replying to your letters of the 14th and 16th instant, relative to the Seal of the United States, you are informed that in view of the pressure of public business it is not deemed practicable to make the necessary research to answer your questions.

"WILLIAM F. WHARTON, Acting Secretary."

Not accepting this letter as final, and earnestly hoping to learn of the latent story of the Great Seal, a letter, after a lapse of eight months, was again directed to the State Department, and early in October received this reply:

"SIR:—Replying to your letter of the 17th ultimo, relative to the Seal of the United States, you are informed that this Department does not feel prepared to give information of a character so purely historical as an answer to your inquiries would involve. "WILLIAM F. WHARTON, Acting Secretary."

The messages thus far received from the Department of State seemed to preclude the possibility of obtaining the desired intelligence, and finally I induced a number of Representatives and a few Senators to inquire into the real cause of the action of the government in this matter, and I learned that all attempts to gain knowledge on this particular feature of our national history was shielded from public, since it was of the executive sessions of the Continental Congress, and hence was considered a part of the secrets of the department. This information, instead of dampening my ardor, had quite the opposite effect, and as a last resort, sent a lengthy letter to Hon. James G. Blaine, at that time

Secretary of State. In this communication I briefly called attention to my purpose; relating my failures in this direction; stating that it did seem reasonable, that in a republic such as ours, the people might have access to the documents and data as pertained to the growth and progress of our national existence, provided such information did not invoke or involve a breach of treaty, statute or proclamation. Beside, the information thus rendered would in all probabilities assist the people in more thoroughly understanding the intent of our national founders, and certainly inspire greater loyalty for the Republic.

EX-PRESIDENT HARRISON.

In reply to this communication a most cordial letter was received and in it assurance was given that the matter pertaining to the evolution of the Great Seal would receive immediate and personal consideration; and shortly the glad tidings came that Mr. Blaine had brought the subject to the attention of President Benjamin Harrison and his cabinet and after some discussion the Executive and his advisers expressed agreeableness in having the records and documents of the Committees on Seal disclosed, as the following letter shows:

Department of State,
Washington, October 5th 1891.

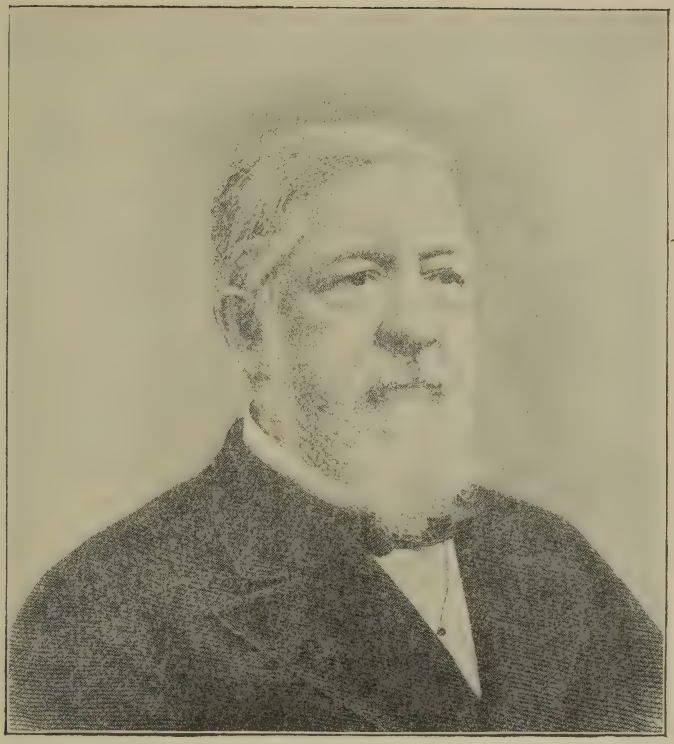
B. J. Cigrand, D.D.S.,
Chicago, Ills.

Sir:

All proper facilities for research in the field you are interested in will be afforded you.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant

James G. Blaine



JAMES G. BLAINE.

Subsequent to this communication little difficulty was experienced regarding information on the subject of the Great Seal.

The following announcement, sent to James G. Blaine from the department and transmitted to me was cheerful news:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., May 23, 1892.

"SIR:—In compliance with instructions received through the Chief Clerk, Sevellon A. Brown, Esq., I have the honor to transmit a sketch, showing from authentic and official sources the development of the Seal of the United States and the National Arms.

"The illustrations were drawn by Mr. Walter Manton, of the department, from original designs.

"I am, sir, your obedient servant, GAILLARD HUNT."

This lengthy monograph was the result of Mr. Blaine's cabinet conference and his deep interest and concern in the story of the Great Seal was evidenced in numerous generous communications from the State Department.

In February of 1893 the following was received from Mr. Blaine's successor:

"DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
"WASHINGTON, D. C., February 20, 1893.

"To B. J. CIGRAND, D. D. S.

"SIR:—I have the pleasure of transmitting to you the accompanying monograph (sketch), describing the origin of the Seal of the United States, for use of yourself.

"Very respectfully,
"JOHN W. FOSTER, Secretary of State."

The officials of the State Department have all most generously rendered their considerations in this matter. The eminent American historian, Benson J. Lossing, who gave diligent consideration to matters of our pre-national career, was delighted with the action of the Department of State, as his letter shows:

"You have succeeded in obtaining facts and information on a subject highly interesting; many historians have failed in this attempt, and among those are eminent writers.

"BENSON J. LOSSING."

Mr. Lossing rendered great service in the preparation of this "Story of the Great Seal," and his communications contained valuable suggestions; and fully mindful of his assistance, this public acknowledgment is truly due him.

A similar mark of consideration is cheerfully accorded to a number of other persons who sent lengthy communications or lent counsel, prominently among which I mention:

Hon. A. Louden Snowden, Superintendent of the U. S. Mint; Hon. Charles J. Folger, ex-Secretary of the Treasury; Gen. C. A. Totten, U. S. Army; Hon. Theodore J. Pickett, Washington, D. C.; ex-President Benjamin Harrison; John E. Tindal, Secretary of State, South Carolina; Hon. J. M. Toner, Library of Congress; D. V. R. Johnson, New York State Librarian; Hon. Patterson Du Bois; Hon. R. P. Thian, Chief Clerk War Department; William Prebel, Historian; W. A. Taylor, Chicago Record-Herald; Hon. Joseph Medill, Chicago Tribune; Hon. W. H. Michael, Chief Clerk State Department; Hon. George B. Cortelyou, Secretary to President Roosevelt; and a large number of other distinguished gentlemen directly connected with the government at Washington.

The Department of State also granted privilege to have photographs made of the Great Seal, as it now stands, encased under guard. The picture appears as the frontispiece of volume II, and this grant on the part of the Secretary of State is highly appreciated. Opportunity was also afforded the photographer to make copies of the important documents relating to the function of the Great Seal. The most important instrument containing our National Arms and Emblems is possibly the treaty of peace between England and the United States, closing the great war of Independence. This treaty was signed by the President of the Continental Congress, the commissioners being Adams, Franklin

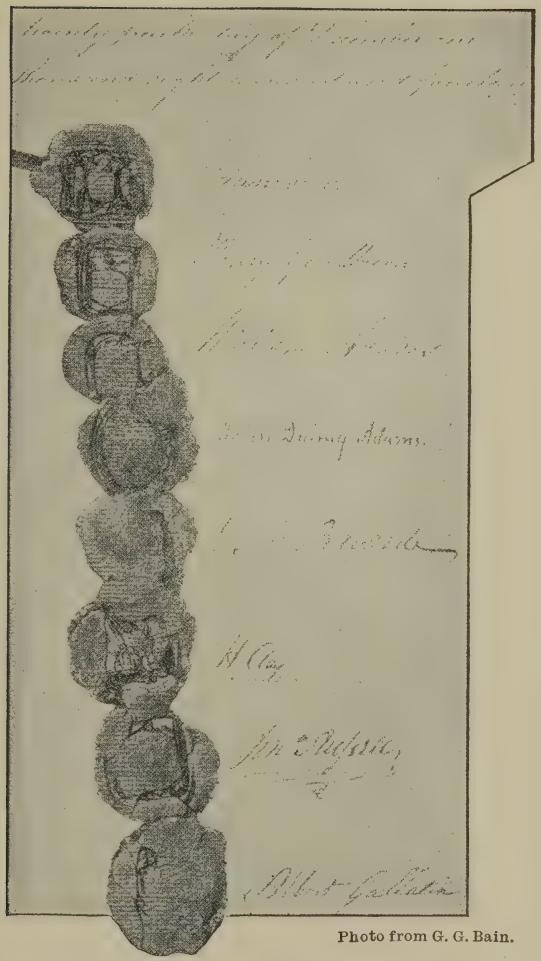


Photo from G. G. Bain.

TREATY OF PEACE—ENGLAND AND U. S.—1814.

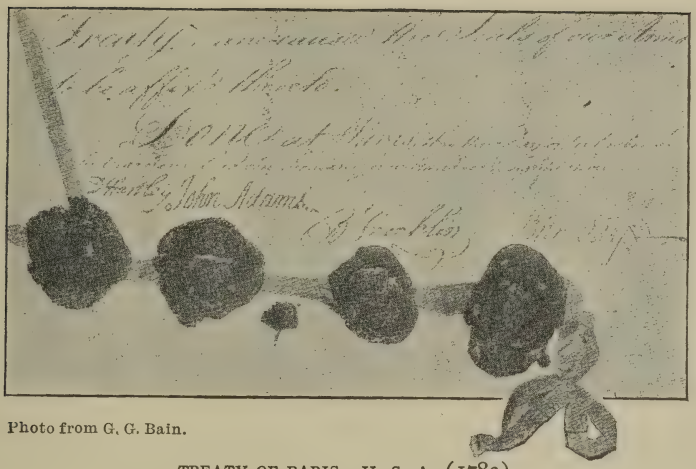


Photo from G. G. Bain.

TREATY OF PARIS—U. S. A. (1783).

and Jay. The second treaty of peace with England, ending the War of 1812, was signed and sealed by President James Madison, though the American peace commissioners, John Quincy Adams and Henry Clay, had effected a peace treaty while in Europe as early as December 24, 1814, weeks prior to the great American victory at New Orleans, under General Jackson.

The government has since the War of 1812 taken a most active part in international affairs and of late years acquired a position

MR. M'KINLEY.

demanding the esteem and respect of the entire civilized world. In her communications and intercourse with the other great nations she has acquired documents of greatest concern to all peoples of the earth. The Department of State admitted of having the great cases of state arranged for unique display of the great variety of treaties of various kinds. Some with huge seals appending; others encased in beautifully engrossed boxes, while a few are carefully attached to engrossed documents by means of golden cord and deposited in handsomely carved chests, as are portrayed in the accompanying engravings.

Some of the treaties are magnificently designed and give evidence of the highest accomplishment in the designer's art. In a few instances these instruments are neatly bound and have the decorated covers. Many of the earlier documents have the large disk seal, measuring ten inches in diameter and upward of two inches in thickness, weighing as much as three and four pounds.

This forms a most interesting part of the records and files of the State Department, and too few of the visitors of Washington have access to this department of the State Building.

On May 31st, 1899, a letter was sent to President McKinley, calling attention to the fact that the American Flag Day Association, which annually celebrates the natal day of our flag on the third Saturday of June, would on this year make the day especially memorable, since the third Saturday (June 20th) happens to be the one hundred and seventeenth anniversary of the adoption of the Great Seal of the United States. The Continental Congress on June 20th, 1782, decreed the character of our National Emblems and this celebration will in consequence observe simultaneously the adoption of "Old Glory" and the "Great Seal."

Sensible of the deep regard you entertain for any exercises fostering the spirit of patriotism, we implore you to give some consideration to this communication, which purposes to invite from you a word of encouragement or expression of approval. The day will be quite generally observed throughout States and in Chicago celebrations will be conducted in the five principal parks, where conjoint audiences of upwards of 50,000 people will be entertained by representative speakers and bodies of school children from the entire school system of our city. In the addresses which are to be given the speakers will dwell on evolution of both Flag and Seal, describing vividly the thrilling history of both. To teach all classes of citizens, regardless of party inclinations or religious affiliations, love of country and inculcate a spirit of patriotism—founded on the rock of education—this is the purpose of our organization. If you feel disposed to

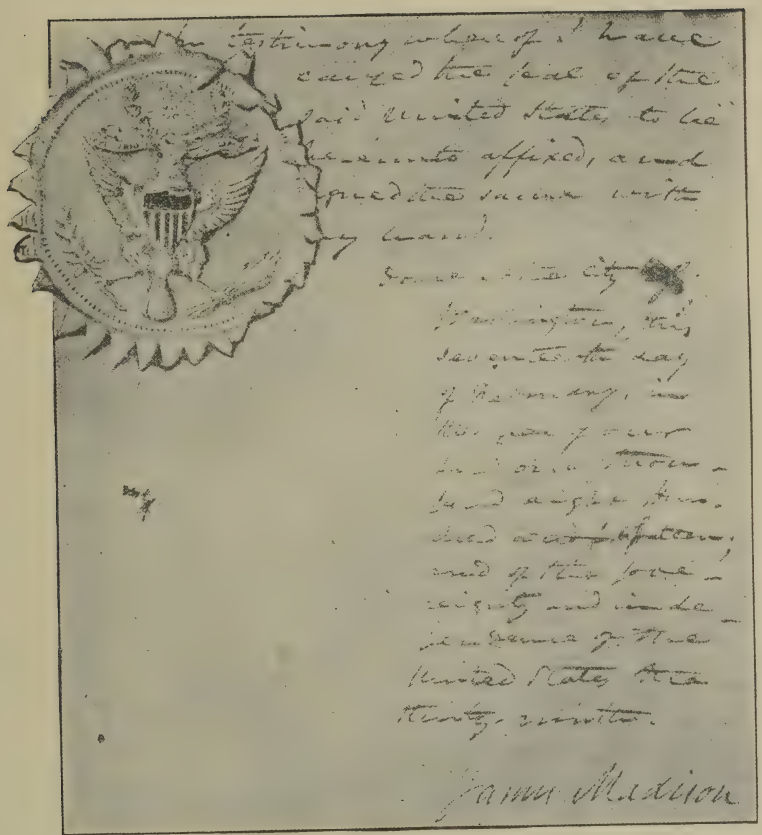


Photo from G. G. Bain.

GREAT SEAL ON TREATY OF PEACE—U. S. AND ENGLAND.

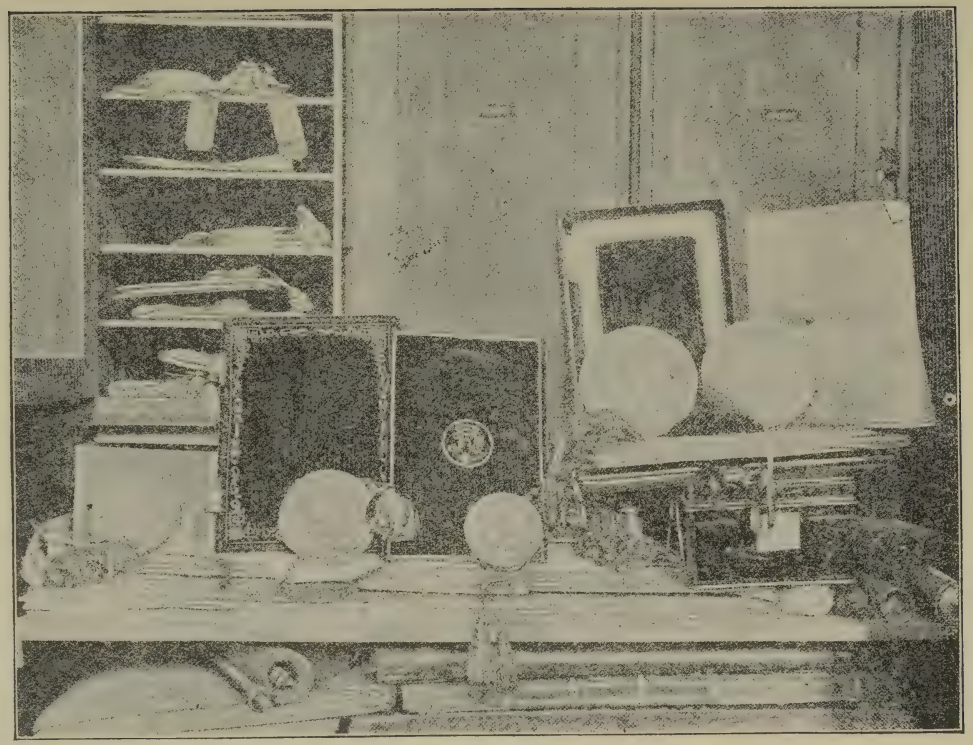


Photo from G. G. Bain.

HISTORIC DOCUMENTS WITH SEALS—STATE DEPARTMENT.

indorse such a movemet and idea, we would be highly complimented to read to the several gatherings throughout the States your communication. A thought from you favoring the celebration will have a profound influence on the destiny of this intended "National holiday."

PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The duality of this commemoration this year gives promise of a great occasion and with your considerations it will be most pronounced.

President McKinley's letter indorsing the idea reads as follows:

EXECUTIVE MANSION.
WASHINGTON

June 6, 1899.

Mr. B. J. Cigrand,
Corresponding Secretary,
North and Milwaukee Avenues,
Chicago, ILL.

My dear Sir:

Your letter of the 31st ultimo has been received and I note with interest what you say concerning the celebration on June 14th by the American Flag-day Association.

The patriotic practice of commemorating the origin of our flag is a most commendable one, and I send my best wishes for the success of the ceremonies on this occasion.

Sincerely yours,

William McKinley

Mr. McKinley's interest in the subject of the Great Seal is evidenced in the XXIV chapter of these books.

On August 1, 1902, I wrote a letter to Hon. John Hay in which I informed him that my work on the Seal was about completed and that I mailed him proof copies of the books and hoped he might find something worthy of his attention in these volumes. Nearly three months elapsed before getting a reply. The following kind letter coming from W. H. Michael, Chief Clerk:

Office of
THE CHIEF CLERK.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

October 23. 1902.

Doctor B. J. Cigrand,
Dental Department,
State University,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

I have instituted a general search for the proof copy of your work entitled "The Story of the Great Seal of the United States," which you sent to this Department for Secretary Hay. At the time it was received here according to your statement supported by the receipt you hold, Secretary Hay was in New Hampshire. The probability is that the book was sent to his private secretary to be forwarded to the Secretary or held until his return. At any rate, I am not able to find the proof copy, which I regret very much. If you have not already done so, I would suggest that you send another copy to the Secretary, for I am sure he would appreciate it very much.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

Wm. H. Michael.
Chief Clerk.

To this communication the following was sent: "Dear Chief Clerk: In reply to your letter of October 23, in which you ask me to send you another set of 'proof copies' of my forthcoming book, will say that I have at considerable extra cost authorized

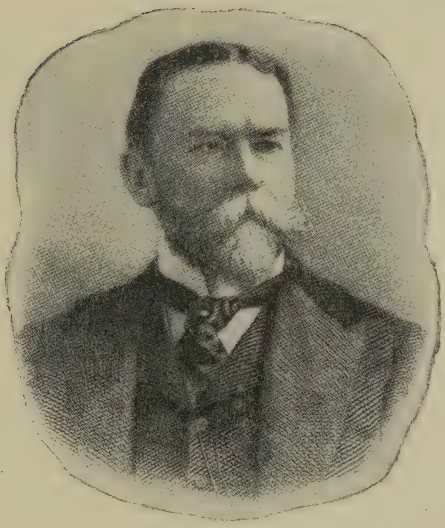
PRESENT GREAT SEAL.

a new set of 'full proofs' struck off in compliance with your kind request.

"You will observe that the proof copies are without preface or index, also that the signature of Mr. Hay is not among those of the past Secretaries, and it is in the hope of receiving Mr. Hay's

autograph and possibly his photograph, showing him seated at his official desk, that I send the 'proof copies' with this message. Volume I will have as a frontispiece a handsome engraving of the Great Seal in its proper tinctures; and I would be pleased, indeed, to have opposite this national emblem a splendid engraving of Hon. John Hay, whose labors have considerably augmented the significance of the Seal."

The response came promptly and reads as follows:



JOHN HAY.

OFFICE OF
THE CHIEF CLERK.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

December 13, 1902

Doctor B. J. Cigrand,

Corner North and Robey Streets,

Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Doctor:

I return you your proof copies of the story of the Great Seal of the United States with the thanks of the Secretary and Assistant Secretary for your kindness in allowing them to look it over. I desire also to thank you on my own behalf.

I send you a very excellent picture of Secretary Hay, together with his autograph. It is not practicable to furnish you a picture of him at his desk.

Thanking you for your kindness in the matter,

I am,

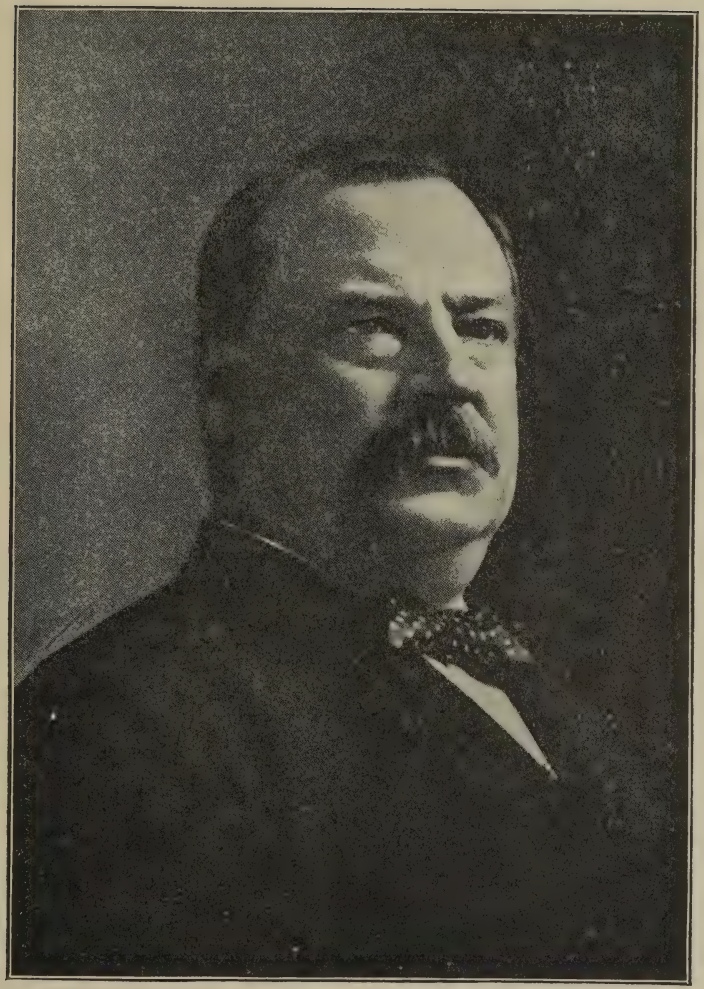
Sincerely yours,

Wm H. Michael

Accompaniments:

As above.

The "proof copies" were then mailed to the President of the United States and his compliments can be found in Chapter XXV. The same copies were then sent to ex-President Grover Cleveland, under whose second administration the initial work on the "Story of the Great Seal" was begun. The closing sentence in this letter to Mr. Cleveland reading: "You will observe that coincidentally the books contain twenty-five chapters, thus allowing the presidents to figure on the initial letters of the several chapters. Any consideration you may pay this communication will receive notice in the volumes." Mr. Cleveland's reply reads:



EX-PRESIDENT GROVER CLEVELAND.

Princeton Jan 19. 1903

Dr C. J. Cigrand

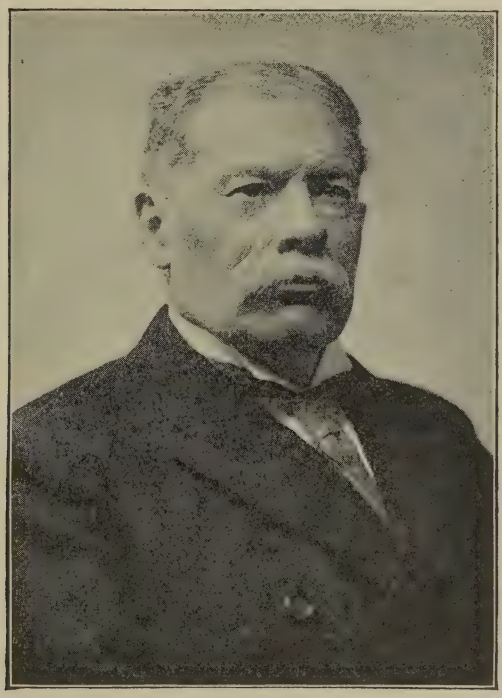
Dear Sir:

I have examined, with as much care as other demands on my time permitted, the material you sent me for your forthcoming "Story of the Great Seal of the United States"; and I will mail it to you to-morrow, and will enclose with this stamps not used, length with the money you sent me to pay return postage.

I am of the opinion that

the work you have undertaken, will be of great historical interest, and a valuable addition to the information, which ought to be more extensive, concerning the evolution of the growth and of our Nation.

Yours very truly
Grover Cleveland



RICHARD OLNEY.

The "proof copies" were then sent to Hon. Richard Olney, Hon. John W. Foster, Hon. William Rufus Day, and the replies of these distinguished statesmen are as follows:

RICHARD OLNEY,
23 Court Street.

BOSTON, 9 February, 1903.

Dr. B. J. Cigrand,
Corner North & Robey Sts.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:-

I regret that the limited time at my disposal has prevented that examination of the proof copies of your "Story of the Great Seal of the United States" which otherwise I should gladly have made.

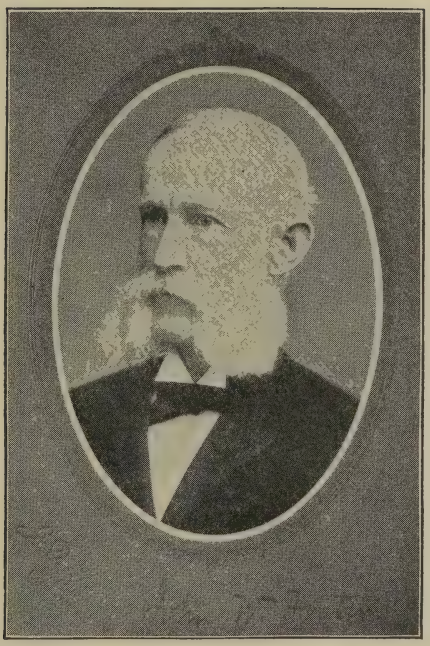
It goes without saying that the work deals with a subject which, like the national flag, intensely interests every American citizen, and, for the full and accurate information you propose to give him, will place him largely in your debt.

With thanks for your courtesy in the matter, I am

Very truly yours.

Richard Olney

If you will let me know just when you wish to use a photograph I will endeavor to send you something.



JOHN W. FOSTER.

OFFICE OF
John W. Foster.
1323 Eighteenth Street.
Washington, D.C.

Feb. 3rd 1903

Prof. B. J. Cigrand,
University of Illinois
Dear Sir,

I have received the proof-sheets of your prospective historical work - "The story of the Great Seal of the United States" - and have examined them with as much care as my other

engagements would permit.

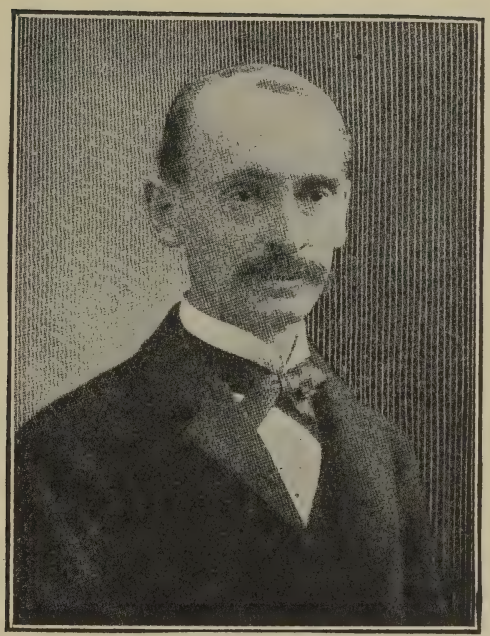
I have been quite interested in it, and think it promises to be a valuable contribution to the history of our government and country.

Very truly,

John W. Foster.

I return "the proof copies" of your work & book post, together with photographs as requested

J.W.F.



WILLIAM R. DAY.

United States
Circuit Court of Appeals
For the Sixth Circuit,
Judges' Chambers,
Cincinnati.

February 10th, 1903.

Mr. B. J. Cigrand,

Cor. North & Robey Sts.,

Chicago, ILL.

My dear Sir:--

I have your letter of the 26th ult. with proof copies of your work entitled "Story of the Great Seal of the United States", which you mailed to my address at Washington, the same having been forwarded to me here. I have been too busy to give the work a careful examination but from what I have seen of it I am satisfied that it will be a work of interest and historic value. You may book my name for a copy when the work is issued for which I will mail you the price on receipt of the book.

Very Truly Yours,

William R. Day

To be unconcerned or ignorant of our national heritage means that we are unpatriotic. The person who cares not for the evolution of this government and who is unmindful of the trials of the early forefathers, certainly can not claim to be a loyal supporter of the nation. He may boast and glorify in the triumphs of his country, but not knowing of the making of the established institutions he so blindly loves, his patriotism, if you can call it such, is but superficial. No man is born a patriot. He may be born with brave inclinations and feel within his breast the love of home and have the true spirit of a hero, yet all these holy qualities do not make him a patriot. Flaunting the flag and crying "Hurrah!" does not change this ignoramus into a patriot. Let him familiarize himself with the history of this and other nations. Let him awaken to the cost of our land in blood and sacrifice; let him become concerned in the great questions of the past and present and let him learn of the needs of the future and then a "hearty hurrah! for the U. S. A.," will be appropriate and becoming. Let his children be taught that the patriot lives in times of peace as well as in war; instruct them in the proper discharge of the ballot and impress on them that the ballot is as powerful as the sword and that America's greatness depends on deep seated patriotism, acquired through a knowledge of the underlying principles of our government.

Ex-President Cleveland writes: "There is great need of educated men in our public life, but it is the need of educated men with patriotism. I am convinced that any institution of learning in our land which neglects to provide for the instruction and improving observance of patriotism falls short of its attainable measure of usefulness and omits a just and valuable contribution to the general good."

Our seal is reared by the united efforts of the ages and clearly portrays the long and struggling march of freedom and tells a soul-stirring tale of those who have laid their lives on the altar of liberty. It speaks in unmistakable language of hardships, trials and sufferings; its potent language records the noble deeds

of all patriots, for every emblem in its making stands forth to represent those who have in any sense, either in war or peace, offered some sacrifice to its birth, existence or endurance. In the government for which it stands are united the experience of all the nations; the worthy features of the governments of Egypt, Greece and Rome are present in their ancient power and fortitude; and the observances of France, Germany and England are united in it as by hooks of steel. In short, whatever be proven or deserving of acceptance is engraven not only in our state papers, but on the hearts of all liberty loving Americans. Thus blended together in one glorious "signature" is the patriot blood of all nations and happily united are lovers of freedom; linked in one fraternity—the Republic of America.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS

BOOK I

Evolution of Great Seal

CHAPTER I

Page

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS 9

CHAPTER II

ANCIENT AND MODERN SEALS 21

CHAPTER III

ARMORIAL OR MODERN SEALS 33

CHAPTER IV

REPORT OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE 51

CHAPTER V

MEETING OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE . . . 60

CHAPTER VI

Page
DU SIMITIERE'S DESIGN 75

CHAPTER VII

FRANKLIN'S DESIGN 103

CHAPTER VIII

JEFFERSON'S DESIGN 118

CHAPTER IX

ADAMS' DESIGN 135

CHAPTER X

JEFFERSON'S CONJOINT DESIGN 148

CHAPTER XI

LOVELL'S DESIGN 161

CHAPTER XII

LOVELL AND RUTLEDGE DESIGNS 177

CHAPTER XIII

BARTON'S DESIGNS 196

OF THE UNITED STATES 543

CHAPTER XIV

Page

THOMSON'S DEVICE AND ADOPTION OF THE GREAT SEAL 217

CHAPTER XV

THE SEAL: ITS ENGRAVING; RECOGNITION; SEVERAL HOMES; OFFICIAL USE AND ALTERATIONS . 238

CHAPTER XVI

OUR GREAT PREMIERS 261

BOOK II

Meaning of Great Seal

CHAPTER XVII

THE AMERICAN SHIELD 301

CHAPTER XVIII

E PLURIBUS UNUM 343

CHAPTER XIX

Page
THE EAGLE 363

CHAPTER XX

WAR AND PEACE 397

CHAPTER XXI

THE STARS 407

CHAPTER XXII

REVERSE SIDE OF SEAL 423

CHAPTER XXIII

GREAT SEAL OF CONFEDERACY 437

CHAPTER XXIV

McKINLEY DEFINITION OF SEAL 465

CHAPTER XXV

TASKS AND TEMPTATIONS 474

APPENDIX

HISTORY OF THE STORY 487

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